



HISTORY
Little leaguers in '62
photo exhibit, Page 5



NURSES DAY
Health career called
enjoyable, rewarding, Page 7



SPORTS
Girls lacrosse dominates
West Side, Page 12

AGAWAM

ADVERTISER NEWS

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CONNECTICUT RIVER



Shore is clean now *Volunteers pick up along riverbank*

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

Almost 20 bags and some accompanying debris laid in the Pynchon Point parking lot last Saturday noon, under the South End Bridge on Agawam's side of the Connecticut River.

Earlier that day, the trash in those bags had been scattered around the woods, sidewalks and shores of Agawam's riverbank, before more than 20 volunteers cleaned it up.

The volunteers were organized by members of the Westfield River Watershed Association. Because of high water levels, the watershed association focused most of its efforts on the Westfield River in Westfield this year, though a smaller group worked on projects in Agawam.

"The lower banks are constantly littered on by people who use the area," said Bill Rose, a member of the watershed association. "It can be really disgusting. We organize these cleanups twice a year to try and keep this area as clean as we can."

Many of the volunteers who helped out had to overcome different conditions. The area along the riverbank is mushy and filled with trees and branches and other restrictions blocking the way.

The group worked from Pynchon Point south only. They were not able to move northwest along the Westfield River because the water was too high, wa-

RIVER | page 9

Above: Frank Scutt cleans up the woods and Connecticut River shore near Pynchon Point on April 25. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Inset: Bill Rose throws another bag into the pile of trash collected in just a three-hour period along the Connecticut River by members of the Westfield River Watershed Association.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

New Planner brings law background

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

Marc Strange is going to be keeping an open mind and doing a lot of listening as he navigates into the first few months of his tenure as the town of Agawam's new Planning and Community Development Director.

Strange was selected by Mayor Richard Cohen a few weeks ago, and the former attorney and judge began his position earlier this month, first helping the town with issues with zoning and land takings, the mayor said.

The new planner's background is predominantly in the law, not in planning or economic development.

"Purely from a planning standpoint, there will be a big learning curve for me," said Strange. "It will take me a while to get to know everything. Luckily, Agawam Town Hall is filled with a lot of institutional knowledge."

Strange said his assistant, Pamela Kerr, along with the engineering department, all have the experience



Marc Strange

PLANNER | page 9

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT

Housing, parks seen as priorities for CPA funds

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

More affordable housing and improved parks are among the priorities some residents and town officials want to see addressed with Community Preservation Act funds during the next year.

Last Wednesday, the CPA Committee held its annual meeting, approving its budget for fiscal 2016.

More than \$534,000 in anticipated revenues for 2016 were assigned, with \$53,402 (10 percent) allocated to each of the three categories mandated by state law, open space preservation, historical resources and community housing. About \$26,701 was set aside for administration, with the remaining \$347,114.23 left unreserved, available for spending in any one of the three categories.

Some attendees at the meet-

ing asked if more CPA money could be spent on affordable housing, particularly for senior citizens.

There is currently more than \$534,000 in the community housing fund, CPA Administrator Jennifer Bonfiglio. The fund has only been used once, when \$250,000 was given to the Agawam Housing Authority in 2007 to address needs on existing housing authority properties.

Agawam is deficient when it comes to affordable housing, says new ad hoc Agawam Housing Committee Chair James Cichetti, a city councilor.

He said in a statement the committee will soon be seeking funds from CPA for a feasibility study related to housing to determine what specific needs the town has.

"We need to know what we have and what we need," said Cichetti.

FUNDS | page 10

EDUCATION

Five teachers awarded for excellence

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

Five Agawam teachers will be recognized in May for their extraordinary dedication to students as well as their outstanding commitment to the teaching profession.

Jennifer Allard, Kelly Daigault, Kimberly Hebert-Donovan, Donna Ferraiolo, and Sandra Johnson will each receive a 2015 Pioneer Valley Excellence in Teaching Award (PVETA) on Thursday, May 7, at the Log Cabin in Holyoke. The five were selected from among 24 Agawam teachers who were nominated for the award.

Now in its 12th year, the award celebrates excellence in education by recognizing teachers who have been selected by their peers and administrators to be honored for their exceptional teaching. The Agawam teachers are among 141 teachers from 35 different school systems in Franklin, Hampden and Hampshire counties being recognized this year.



Jennifer Allard, a teacher of severe special education students at the high school, is one of five Agawam educators who will receive an Excellence in Teaching Award in May. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

In addition to the award, each teacher will receive \$500 for their personal use, an engraved plaque, a letter of commendation from Gov. Charlie Baker, a three-month membership to a local YMCA or the Jewish Community Center, and a grant for a graduate course at either Bay Path College, Elms College, Westfield State University or Western New England University.

Agawam Superintendent William Sapelli said it's important to acknowledge, support and encourage "extraordinary" teachers. He added that it was a difficult process to select the final five teachers since all the nominees "are worthy of this award."

TEACHER PROFILES
page 10 & 11



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IN THIS ISSUE

| | |
|---------------------|----|
| Calendar | 19 |
| Church | 15 |
| Education | 6 |
| Sports | 12 |
| Public Safety | 7 |
| Business | 8 |
| Classifieds | 16 |

20 PAGES

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'Let down your hair'



Carpenter Jack (Caleb Curd, of Westfield) gets a surprise visit from Mother Gothel (Stephanie Hoag, of Agawam) at the top of Rapunzel's tower in last month's Tiny Tales production at the Red Door Theatre in Feeding Hills. This month's play is "Cinderella," scheduled for Saturday, May 2, at 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. with an extra show at 2 p.m. For reservations, call 413-789-2026. SUBMITTED PHOTO

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Tickets available for ziti dinner

The Friends of the Agawam Senior Center will host a ziti and meatball dinner on Tuesday, May 5, from 5 to 7 p.m. The menu will also include garlic bread, salad, dessert and coffee or tea. The event will also feature a 50-50 raffle. Donation is \$7 per person, \$10 at the door and \$4 for children.

For advance tickets, visit the Senior Center at 954 Main St., Agawam, or call Emile Cote at 413-335-9440.

Catholic Women’s banquet May 11

The Catholic Women’s Club of Agawam will hold its annual May banquet this year at the Crestview Country Club, 281 Shoemaker Lane, Agawam. The banquet will take place Monday, May 11, beginning at 6 p.m.

The dinner this year will be a buffet. Tickets are \$28.50 per person. Guests are welcome for this event. For information and reservations, call Janet Wysocki at 413-786-2041.

Garden club to meet May 12

The Agawam Garden Club, which is “digging into” its 81st year, will meet Tuesday, May 12, at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. Those in attendance decorate ice cream containers for the club’s annual plant sale. Members and non-members are welcome.

Free health fair at Country Estates

Country Estates at 1200 Suffield St., Agawam, will host a health fair Monday, May 11, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Local vendors that will be participating include RAM Ambulance, Agawam Medical Supply, The Atrium, Armbrook Village of Westfield, The Arbors of Westfield, Noble Visiting Nurse and Hospice, Bronson Rehab — Noble Hospital, Attorney Holly Lewis — Elder Care Law, Beacon Hospice and Monastery Heights Assisted Living.

The event is free and open to the public.

Tag, bake sale benefits Sacred Heart Parish

The St. Martha’s Guild of Sacred Heart Parish in Feeding Hills, will hold a tag, bake, and flower sale at the parish center on Saturday, May 9, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The cost is \$20 per table.

To reserve a table, mail a check to the Sacred Heart Parish Office, 1061 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030, Attn. St. Martha’s Tag Sale; contact Linda at 413-949-3741; or email b.billbathel@comast.net.

Setup at the parish center will be Friday, May 8, from 4 to 7 p.m., and Saturday, May 9, from 8 to 9 a.m. Donations to the parish will be accepted to be sold. All proceeds will support various parish activities throughout the year.

During the event, there will a bake sale. To donate bake sale items, bring them to the parish office on Friday or Saturday. Please note on the items if there are nuts or peanut used in the recipe. There will also be flowering plants for sale for Mother’s Day.

Council adopts annual reorg, other updated rules

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

The City Council will now choose its president on an annual basis, rather than reorganizing only after an election.

Councilors unanimously approved changes to the board’s rulebook this week. Other updates include resolutions originating from the council no longer requiring the signature of the city solicitor to appear on the agenda, and the ability to leave items off the agenda if proponents don’t submit background information on the issue in time.

For the past few years, councilors have expressed annoyance at a lack of information provided about spending, transfers and the rationale for proposed resolutions and ordinances.

A City Council agenda item normally appears first on the agenda as “new business.” It is not usually voted on or discussed at that meeting. It only gets discussion and a vote after being reintroduced as “old business” in a subsequent meeting.

When an item appears as new business, it is usually referred to a subcommittee for a recommendation. The lack of supporting information to use at subcommittee meetings has often frustrated councilors and slowed the process.

Under the revised Rule 15, items will not be placed on the agenda unless the sufficient supporting information has been submitted to the city council office.

Resolutions and ordinances that are originated by members of the council can now be advanced to the council agenda now without a signature from the city solicitor.

Agenda items are always submitted to the city’s law department and are edited for form and legality. The items are

signed off by the solicitor and placed on the agenda. Some councilors, however, have said they have experienced delays in getting a signature from the solicitor because of conflicts with the town’s administration.

One such incident was a proposal by councilors Robert Rossi and Donald Rheault about the marking of municipal cars. The councilors and administration disagreed over the legality of some of the requirements in the ordinance, leading to a lengthy delay in the ordinance getting to the council agenda.

Under the revised rule, items originated by a councilor do not need a signature from the solicitor to get to the agenda.

The council president and vice president will now be elected annually. Rule 4 formerly provided for elections at the first meeting in January following a municipal election year. Once the officers are elected, the remaining seats on the council floor are chosen by lottery, with the exception of the councilor eldest in age, who always sits to the council president’s left.

The revised rule will now require a new election of president and vice president during off-years. Councilor James Cichetti, chair of the Legislative Subcommittee, said he felt the council should reorganize on a yearly basis and pushed for the change.

The council cleaned up language in other areas of the rules, including formally eliminating three budget subcommittees because they are no longer active. During the budget process, the council now meets as a whole at its regular meetings and hears presentations from department heads. The council members then have the opportunity to ask questions as they prepare for the budget public hearing in June.

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Opinion

OUR VIEW

What's the whorl coming to?

Here's where we are in 2015: Like a drunk-and-disorderly at the booking desk or the chief suspect in a bludgeoning, we're now fingerprinting the Good Humor man.

That's a sad commentary on our paranoid society. Even sadder is that even in Agawam — a community of neighbors, and ordinarily a business-friendly town — nobody in power seems to bat an eye when the town administration proposes treating businessmen like potential criminals.

After making a few tweaks, Agawam's City Council last week voted to back a new ordinance requiring certain licensed vendors — namely, ice cream truck operators, door-to-door solicitors, liquor license holders, taxicab operators and second-hand and junk dealers — to ink their digits and pay a \$75 fee to have them checked against state and federal crime databases.

Though even proponents of the law acknowledge that the town has had no specific problems with the existing CORI (state criminal records check) system, they argue that one can never be too safe. And if even one child is spared being the victim of a kidnapping or sexual crime, it's worth a little expense and indignity to the business community.

At least we're not treating vendors any worse than schoolteachers, who were subjected to a statewide fingerprinting mandate last year. Holding a master's degree and a personal recommendation from your professors and former principals isn't enough — now these professionals who introduce the town's children to Shakespeare, Newton, Pythagoras and Da Vinci have to send off their loops and whorls to prove that they're not predators.

It would be interesting to see how many teacher candidates, and how many vendor applications, end up being denied because of the results of the fingerprint background check, and how many of those would not have been caught with a CORI — a completely non-invasive check that was already being used for these sorts of licenses.

You can't prove a negative, and proponents will always be able to say that the mere presence of a fingerprinting law will deter sex offenders and ex-convicts from exploiting an ice cream truck or peddler's license, or for that matter a teaching certificate, to find new victims. And they may be right.

But what a sad world we live in where these honest people have to prove they're not a threat.

What do you think? Send your letter to the editor to aan@turley.com.

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Letters to the Editor

Many contribute to fashion show success

The GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club recently held its 15th annual fashion show to raise money for scholarships and other educational programs such as the annual Spelling Bee, Bingo for Books, and the Safety Bug Program. This year's "Fashion in Motion" featured styles from Dress Barn in West Springfield with commentary by Dario Mercadante, owner of the Commonwealth Appraisal Company.

The club members would like to thank Dario and all of the local businesses and people who supported this program by purchasing an ad in our program book and/or by donating a raffle prize. Also donating his time for us was DJ Doug Reed of Agawam, and hairstyles for the models came compliments of Salon Mix located in Chicopee. The patrons of this event also have our deepest gratitude.

We truly appreciate everyone who

worked and helped to make this a successful event.

**Kathleen A. Mounemneh
and Donna Shibley**
Fashion show co-chairs

Here's hoping Toto returns

On Thursday, April 23, the Agawam Public Library had a very special visitor — Toto the Tornado Kitten. Toto and his human helper, Jonathan, love to travel and talk about Toto's adventures. It was Toto's first visit to the Agawam Public Library, and we loved meeting him. We hope that Toto will be back again during our Summer Reading Program, "Every Hero Has a Story."

Susan Peoples
Youth Services Associate
Agawam Public Library

FAITH MATTERS

B.C. or A.D.

The influence of a carpenter from Nazareth named Jesus, the son of Mary, has spanned the globe for two millennia. His birth marks a dividing line in history: B.C. (Before Christ) and A.D. (Anno Domini, the year of our Lord). Some historians have changed the abbreviations to B.C.E. (before the Common/Current/Christian Era) and C.E. (Common Era), but the dividing point still remains: the birth of Jesus Christ. There is something incredible about this man who lived, died, rose from the grave, ascended into heaven, and has promised to return to earth one day to set up his kingdom. His teachings have been translated into more than 2,500 languages, according to Wikipedia. Millions claim to be followers of his doctrine today. How could people still follow a simple man who lived 2,000 years ago? I suggest it hinges on B.C. and A.D.

A person who has not asked Jesus Christ to forgive his/her sins is living a life in the era of B.C. (Before Christ). This person may be a fine, upstanding individual or a hardened criminal, but in relation to spiritual things, that person is living life without the presence and power of Jesus Christ within them. The apostle Paul put it like this: "As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings

of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath" (Ephesians 2:1-3, NIV). Without declaring our sinfulness and need for a savior, we are doomed to spend eternity apart from God. That is the saddest story of all time.



Pastor Tim Reed

But God can make a profound difference in a life. When a man or woman reaches out to the God who created heaven and earth, sent His one and only Son to die on a cross and pay the penalty for your sin and my sin, and confesses with his/her mouth Jesus Christ is now Lord (the authoritative leader),

that person begins to live an A.D. life. At the moment one surrenders his/her life to become a follower of Jesus Christ by faith, the change is so amazing words can hardly express it. "But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions — it is by grace you have been saved" (Ephesians 2:4-5). No one deserves God's grace but He freely gives it to all who call on His name — the name of Jesus, the only name by which humanity can find salvation for all eternity.

B.C. leads to a God-less eternity. A.D. ensures entrance into the presence of your Lord and Savior if you have received Him by faith — because faith matters for all eternity.

Tim Reed is the executive pastor of Bethany Assembly of God.



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Are You Old News?

Each week the Agawam Advertiser News digs into its submitted photo archives and selects a people photo to publish. We need your help to help identify those pictured. Email your answers by Monday at noon to aan@turley.com. Please include your first and last name.



Last week's photo: Correctly identifying Charles Heyl were George Liptak, Reidar and Geraldine Schilling-Nordal, Linda Hayes, Norma Turcotte, Donna Kennedy, Rich Berryman and Walter Willard.



State repeals electric rate order

BOSTON — The state Department of Public Utilities has repealed an order that local legislators said cost customers “hundreds of dollars.”

State Sen. Donald Humason Jr. and several other Western Massachusetts legislators, including state Rep. Nicholas Boldyga, sent a letter to the DPU in March urging a repeal of a rule approved in 2000 that required electric companies to charge customers retroactively at a higher, variable rate if they decided to switch to a competitive supplier within a set six-month pricing term — Jan. 1 to June 30, or July 1 to Dec. 31. Boldyga said this month that he is “very pleased” with the repeal, which took effect April 13.

“This rule caused working-class people an incredible amount of stress and financial hardship, especially since electric rates are already causing many to choose between heating their homes and putting food on the table. The elimination of this rule was the right thing to do,” Boldyga said.

Humason, who led the campaign against the DPU order, credited Western Massachusetts residents for ensuring a speedy response from the state agency.

“My colleagues and I were able to work

on this from the beginning thanks to the many constituents that reached out to our offices with their concerns,” said Humason. “By raising their voices, ratepayers in Western Massachusetts and the commonwealth as a whole saw policy change in just a month’s time.”

The repeal affects customers who switched electric suppliers after April 13, and in the future. It does not apply retroactively.

According to the letter sent by Humason’s office on March 19, under the former system, “ratepayers [were] penalized for their attempts at saving their families or businesses money, when many households are struggling with day-to-day finances. This does not encourage consumers to utilize the deregulated energy market as intended by the commonwealth.”

Humason, a Westfield Republican, and Boldyga, a Southwick Republican, represent Agawam on Beacon Hill. Also signing the letter were state Sens. Eric Lesser, D-Longmeadow, and James Welch, D-West Springfield; and state Reps. Thomas Petrolati, D-Ludlow; William Pignatelli, D-Lenox; John Scibak, D-South Hadley; Jose Tosado, D-Springfield; and John Velis, D-Westfield.

Cultural Council looking for new members

The Agawam Cultural Council will meet Tuesday, May 19, at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. The meeting is open to the public.

A great opportunity exists with the Agawam Cultural Council for anyone with an interest in providing diverse cultural events for the town. This all-volunteer organization, appointed by the mayor and funded,

in part, by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, is looking for new members.

The ACC is charged with bringing engaging, entertaining, and educational events and opportunities in the arts, humanities, and sciences, to children and adults from Agawam and the surrounding communities.



This Little League picture will be on display in our library during the month of May with three others. Stop by to find out the names of the players and coaches. SUBMITTED PHOTO

YESTERDAY’S HOMETOWN NEWS

Our beautiful library

‘Agawam, Massachusetts,” written by Edith (Hull) LaFrancis and published in 1980, has a chapter of seven pages recounting the history of libraries in our town. Pictured on page 282 is the building on the south corner of the Monroe Street and Main Street intersection. Originally called the Davis Library, it looks more like a house than a building and it was a gift to the town in the ‘20s by Minerva Porter Davis. It served as our main library until 1978 and is now called the Minerva Davis Community Center.

The neighborhood around the Davis Library was called Agawam Center and it had mostly everything you needed: a post office, a drug store, a barber shop, a cleaners, a gas station, a market and your choice of three different churches. Sometimes it even had a doctor or a dentist. Oh, yeah, and a library.

Surely you are sick of hearing about the ‘63s, but if your class can match this statistic, I will write about it. Check out these numbers. Five ‘63s lived within 600 feet of the library. Darlene McLean lived two houses from the library. Bob Biza lived next to Darlene and Rich Gingras lived across the street from Bob. Our twins, Connie and Candy Ewell, lived right behind Darlene. Eight other ‘63s lived at most about 1,200 feet from the library (total 13). We ‘63s still like the libraries but we’re into bigger ones now. We will be filling the town library display cases during the entire month of May. Here are brief descriptions of some of our to-be-displayed memorabilia.

Pictures of some of our elementary and junior high teachers and their children: Mr. Miller, Mrs. Polopek, Mrs. O’Rourke, et al. Class hats from 1960, 1963 and 1964. Pictures of rock and roll and movie stars



Walt Willard
Guest Columnist

such as James Dean, Elvis, et al. Old yearbooks like the ones our library has in the reference room. Pictures of the very first Little League teams from 1953: Mr. Schinelli’s Chriscola Bears, Mr. Donovan’s Hampden Aces, Mr. Tisdell’s Barker Cubs and Mr. Pond’s Chamber Jets. You can try to find Roy Benjamin, Ken Mutti, Rich Morassi, Charlie Gibson, et al.

Also included in the display is a 1953 goalpost piece signed by Turk Bruno, Jim O’Keefe, Bob DeGeorge, Stan Drzyzga, Andy Anderson and others. A 1957 goalpost piece signed by Len Charest, Walt McCarthy, Dan Tomassetti, Tom Clark, the Muttis and the Modzelewskis. Peanut Bowl pictures and a picture of Cliff Kibbe, Harry Leonardi and Turk Bruno. Pictures of some of the ‘63s in 1958 sitting on the wing of a jet at Barnes Airport. Programs of AHS musicals — “Annie Get Your Gun” (1962), “Bye Bye Birdie” (1963) and “Bells Are Ringing” (1964). Shop projects made in school over 50 ago. Agawam Mirrors from the ‘60s. A picture of Dr. Dowling and the sign from his barn. He was our veterinarian. Cub Scout and Boy Scout pictures from the ‘50s and ‘60s.

Our big, beautiful library led by librarian Judy Cline has computers, tapes, movies, meeting rooms, zillions of books and a children’s library larger than the Davis Library we grew up with. Come see the ‘63 display and tour the gem of the city. The price is right!

Walt Willard went to AHS and taught math there for 16 years. He can be reached at 413-786-7924. Call him. Walt loves your feedback and any and all information or tidbits you can offer.

Pancake breakfast to benefit Grange

Community Grange 382 of Feeding Hills will hold an “all you can eat” pancake breakfast on Sunday, May 17, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The breakfast will be held at the Grange Hall, 47 N. West St., Feeding Hills.

The menu will include pancakes (all you can eat), sausage, fruit salad, choice of juice and coffee, tea or milk.

Donation is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children age 10 and under.

Reservations are suggested and may be made by calling Pauline at 413-789-2061. Proceeds from the supper will benefit the building fund. The public is invited to attend.

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In the Classroom

Agawam High School Counseling bulletin

College Acceptances: Monique Groux: Ithaca College, Westfield State University; Xinming Li: Suffolk University; Mike Reed: Worcester State University; Brady Lucia: UMass Amherst, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Western New England University; Roshni Patel: Suffolk University

Entry Level IT training: Tech Foundry is looking for seniors that are interested in training for an entry level IT job. They are offering a 12-week free IT workforce training program. No IT experience is needed. Tech Foundry will help place you in an internship and a job upon completion of this training. Apply by May 1 to https://docs.google.com/forms/d/132VDFdYApSaqPfG7Zm6DEe7iWB604jFl8egbOSCISg0/viewform?usp=send_form.

Ronald McDonald House Teen Board: This board is comprised of a highly select group of sophomore and junior high school students. Teen selections are based on academics, activities, and commitment to volunteering. Each teen is expected to volunteer 30-40 hours per school year. If you are interested in being a board member, complete an application at www.rmhc-wma.org/get-involved/teen-board

volunteers and return by May 31. Two recommendation letters must accompany the application. Only two students per school are generally chosen.

American Legion Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Program: This program is sponsored by the American Legion. Youths looking to increase their understanding of the job of police officers and to be exposed to the demands of police training are encouraged to apply to this one-week, intensive, summer residential learning program for ages 15-17. There is a fee. Visit www.legion.org/juniorlaw/about for more information and to apply. Space is limited. Due: April 30.

ACTs: June 13 (sign up by May 8).
SATs: May 2 (sign up by April 6); June 6 (sign up by May 8).

Nurse's Aide Course: Professional Care Academy, 270 Main St., Agawam, has openings for this course. Students must be a high school graduate and can enroll in either a four- or five-week course followed by the completion of 116 clinical hours. Upon completion of the course, a home health aide certification will be earned. Books and uniform are included in the \$1,000 fee. One \$250 scholarship will be

awarded to a graduating senior. If interested, call 413-391-7926 for more information or to enroll. See Ms. Sheehan in the Career Center if you have any further questions.

STCC STEM Academy: Open to seniors with a minimum 2.00 GPA who are interested in pursuing a STEM career (science, technology, engineering or math field) and plan on attending STCC in the fall. This academy begins in the summer and is free for accepted participants. Program participants earn a \$400 stipend, free college courses, attend free field trips to learn more about STEM careers, hear from STEM experts and participate in hands-on activities with some of the STEM professors. Interested applicants must submit a STCC admissions application for the fall and a STEM Starter Academy application. The STEM Starter Academy application is available at www.stcc.edu/stemacademy/. Students must submit both applications by May 1.

Scholarships: See your counselor for more information or an application.

Improvement League offering \$1,000 scholarships

The Hampden County Improvement League, 28 N. West St., Feeding Hills, is awarding scholarships in the amount of up to \$1,000 to high school seniors who meet certain criteria. The applications are available at area high schools and are due by June 1.

Recipients must be a resident of Hampden County for at least two years, be a good student and must show current or previous involvement in 4-H, an agricultural endeavor or be a member of a farm family.

The Hampden County Improvement League was established Jan. 25, 1913, to promote agriculture and farm family life in Hampden County. HCIL is committed to encouraging youth to challenge themselves and work toward their potential by furthering their education after high school. To help meet this financial commitment the League established a scholarship fund in 1993. Scholarships are awarded annually in the amount of up to \$1,000 each. The recipient will continue to receive the award throughout his/her post secondary education.

For questions or more information, call Sue at 413-786-1432, Maryellen at 413-575-1759 or see the high school guidance counselor.

School Lunch

AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL

The Agawam High School lunch menu is posted on the school's website.

AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Monday, May 4: Popcorn chicken with dipping sauce, Tater Tots, seasoned carrots, fresh and chilled fruit.
Tuesday, May 5: French toast sticks, hash browns, pork sausage links, diced peach cup, orange juice.
Wednesday, May 6: Ziti with meat sauce, whole-wheat breadstick, dark green vegetable, fresh and chilled fruit.
Thursday, May 7: Chicken sandwich on whole-wheat roll, lettuce and tomato, baby carrots, low-fat Doritos, wacky cake, assorted chilled fruit.
Friday, May 8: Stuffed-crust cheese pizza, salad with lite dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

ROBERTA G. DOERING SCHOOL

Monday, May 4: Popcorn chicken with dipping sauce, Tater Tots, seasoned carrots, fresh and chilled fruit.
Tuesday, May 5: French toast sticks, hash browns, pork sausage links, diced peach cup, orange juice.
Wednesday, May 6: Ziti with meat sauce, whole-wheat breadstick, dark green vegetable, fresh and chilled fruit.
Thursday, May 7: Chicken sandwich on whole-wheat roll, lettuce and tomato, baby carrots, low-fat Doritos, wacky cake, assorted chilled fruit.
Friday, May 8: Stuffed-crust cheese pizza, salad with lite dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

AGAWAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Monday, May 4: Popcorn chicken with dipping sauce, Tater Tots, seasoned carrots, fresh and chilled fruit.
Tuesday, May 5: French toast sticks, hash browns, pork sausage links, diced peach cup, orange juice.
Wednesday, May 6: Ziti with meat sauce, whole-wheat breadstick, dark green vegetable, fresh and chilled fruit.
Thursday, May 7: Chicken sandwich on whole-wheat roll, lettuce and tomato, baby carrots, low-fat Doritos, wacky cake, assorted chilled fruit.
Friday, May 8: Stuffed-crust cheese pizza, salad with lite dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

ELEMENTARY BREAKFAST MENU

Monday, May 4: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, cinnamon graham crackers, mozzarella cheese string, chilled juice.
Tuesday, May 5: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted Nutri-Grain bars, mozzarella cheese string, chilled juice.
Wednesday, May 6: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted muffins, mozzarella cheese string, chilled juice.
Thursday, May 7: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted Trix yogurt, mozzarella cheese string, chilled juice.
Friday, May 8: Pillsbury mini chocolate-chip pancakes with syrup for dipping, mozzarella cheese string, chilled 1 percent low-fat milk, chilled juice.

Congrats, Colleen



Agawam St. Patrick's Colleen Committee co-chairpersons Mary Jo Safford, left, and Nicole Bertera, right, present 2015 Colleen Lauren Muszynski with a monetary gift from the committee at a meeting held April 15 at St. John's Church. Muszynski has decided to use the proceeds to purchase a laptop to use while attending Lasell College in the fall. SUBMITTED PHOTO

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Public Safety

POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 317 calls for service from April 21 to April 27. The department made six arrests. Those arrested will appear at a future date in Westfield District Court and are innocent until proven guilty.

Wednesday, April 22

Diana Edwina Jones-Woodard, 51, of 74 Springfield St., Apt. 33, Agawam, was arrested on charges of domestic assault and battery and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.
 Anthony Johnston, 49, of 327 Liberty St., Springfield, was arrested on a default warrant for failure to appear.

Friday, April 24

Richard Alvarado, 34, of 301 Maple St., Apt. 101, Springfield, was arrested on charges of assault with a dangerous weapon and disturbing the peace.
 Jesus Rodriguez, 27, of 106 Silver St., Agawam, was arrested on charges of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon and disturbing the peace.

Sunday, April 26

Jonathan D. Ouimet, 23, of 30 George St., Agawam, was arrested on a charge of assault and battery.

Monday, April 27

Katie Jean Pomeroy, 25, of 55 Spring St., Apt. 1A, Agawam, was arrested on a charge of domestic assault and battery.

FIRE LOG

Logs for April 21 to 28 were not available from the Fire Department by press time. They will be printed in next week's Agawam Advertiser News.

Firefighter sworn in



A swearing-in was held for call firefighter Michael Largay, of Agawam, on Thursday, April 23. Pictured, from left, are Mayor Richard Cohen, Largay, Fire Chief Alan Sirois and Town Clerk Richard Theroux. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Daughter pursues nursing career to follow fathers dying wish

Editor's note: In honor of National Nurses Day, May 6, the Agawam Advertiser News is sharing this story submitted by Baystate Health.

A father's dying wish and his daughter's resolve to "make it happen" is what drove Tami Miranda of Agawam to become a registered nurse.

"Both my father and younger sister were sick at the same time. My mother took care of my sister and I helped with my father," said Miranda, who at the time was a nursing assistant.

"He asked me to go on and become a nurse, and I did," said the home care nurse at Baystate Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice.

National Nurses Week, a time to recognize nurses for their efforts in delivering compassionate care while encompassing the principles of ethical practice in their profession, is May 6-12.

Miranda's first true introduction to the nursing profession came while attending Agawam High School, where she took a course to become a nursing assistant.

"After my dad died, I worked as a full-time nursing assistant until my daughter was born. When she was two, I went back to school and eventually found my way to the Baystate School of Nursing," said Miranda.

As a new nursing graduate ready to put what she learned into practice, Miranda found a job working on the pediatric ward of a nursing home in Northampton. When 1994 arrived, she began the new year in January as a nurse at Baystate Children's Hospital.

"I found it very rewarding to be working with children, especially our young oncology patients, watching so many of them fight the disease and go into remission," said Miranda.

Beginning with National Nurses Day on May 6, nurses around the country like Miranda, including others at Baystate Health facilities throughout the area, are being honored for the important role they play in delivering the highest level of quality of care to their patients. Nurses practice in diverse roles, such as clinicians, administrators, researchers, educators and policymakers.

"Nurses are our partners in clinical innovation through our team approach to quality and safety improvements. They are at the heart of individualized approaches to care that take into account the patient's culture, education and past experiences. We couldn't deliver a higher state of caring without them," said Dr. Mark A. Keroack, president and CEO of Baystate Health.

Sponsored by the American Nurses Association, National Nurses Week has as its 2015 theme, "Ethical Practice, Quality Care," recognizing the importance of ethics in nursing and acknowledging the strong commitment, compassion and care nurses display in their practice and profession. An annual Gallup survey shows that the public has ranked nursing as the top profession for honesty and



Agawam resident Tami Miranda says her career in nursing has been enjoyable and "very rewarding." SUBMITTED PHOTO

ethical standards for 13 straight years.

Despite her love of pediatrics, a decade later Miranda would find herself in a new role a Baystate.

"I had another baby and working in the evening was difficult, so I turned to home care and a position at Baystate Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice. There is more flexibility in home care, and I was still able to work full-time," said Miranda.

"I find home care enjoyable because I am able to establish a special one-on-one relationship with my patients, and you often get to develop a close relationship with the family, as well," she added.

Asked if she would recommend nursing to someone interested in the profession, she said "yes," and had a special message for them.

"I would tell them that you need to be a modern-day Florence Nightingale, someone who is a caring, honest person willing to go that extra mile for those you are caring for, someone who isn't in it just for the money," she said.

Baystate Medical Center's high quality nursing care earned its second designation as a Magnet Hospital for Nursing Excellence — one of only seven in Massachusetts and 18 in New England — a distinction that places the hospital's nursing staff among the finest in the nation. Nationally, only about 6.9 percent of all health care organizations carry "magnet" designations.

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Business

Dessert Stop a 'go'



A grand opening ribbon-cutting ceremony was held Friday, April 10, at Traffic Light Dessert Stop in Agawam Towne Square, 67 Springfield St. Among those in attendance were, second from left, Jen Alqueza, owner Helen Chui, Mayor Richard Cohen, Alan Cohen, Jackie Chui, Jun Zhao and far right, Joey Chui. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Lopez promoted to assistant vice president

Westfield Bank announced recently that Madeline Lopez has been promoted to assistant vice president. An employee of the bank for 16 years, Lopez manages the bank's Agawam office, where she is responsible for sales, service, and operational performance.



Madeline Lopez

She is active with the West of the River Chamber of Com-

merce and is the president-elect of the Agawam Rotary Club.

Westfield Bank is federally chartered stock savings bank that is insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Founded in 1853, the bank has 13 full-service offices in Agawam, Feeding Hills and other Western Massachusetts and Northern Connecticut towns.

Public invited to Investment Club meeting on May 7

There will be a meeting of the Agawam Investment Club on Thursday, May 7, at 12:30 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. Those interested are invited to share

information and discuss smart investment strategies. No money is collected or pooled, as this group meets for discussion only, on the first and third Thursday of each month.

Legals

AGAWAM ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT March 26, 2015

Notice is hereby given that the Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing at the Agawam Public Library Community Room, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA on **Monday, May 11, 2015 at 6:30PM** for all parties interested in the appeal of Charles Calabrese who is seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Section 180-7 of the Town of Agawam's Zoning Ordinances, which would allow for the construction of a duplex on a pre-existing nonconforming lot with less than the required frontage at the premises identified as 29 Spring Street.

Doreen Prouty Chairperson
Agawam Board of Appeals
4/23,4/30/15

**Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD15P0658GD
In the matter of:
Irene M Joslyn
Of: Agawam, MA
RESPONDENT
Alleged Incapacitated
Person
CITATION GIVING
NOTICE OF PETITION
FOR APPOINTMENT OF
GUARDIAN FOR**

INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Kevin R Joslyn** of Indian Orchard, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that **Irene M Joslyn** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Kevin R Joslyn** of Indian Orchard, MA to act with previously appointed guardian (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of 05/15/2015. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must

file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Anne M Geoffrion, First Justice of this Court.

Date: April 17, 2015
Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
4/30/15

**Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD15P0654GD
In the matter of:
Alyssa M Orwat
Of: Agawam, MA
RESPONDENT
Alleged Incapacitated
Person
CITATION GIVING
NOTICE OF PETITION
FOR APPOINTMENT OF
GUARDIAN FOR
INCAPACITATED
PERSON PURSUANT TO
G.L. c. 190B, §5-304**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Providence Behavioral Health Hosp.** of Holyoke, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that **Alyssa M Orwat** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Iris Rosemond** of Ware, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of 05/14/2015. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceed-

ing may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Anne M Geoffrion, First Justice of this Court.

Date: April 16, 2015
Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
4/30/15

**Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD12P1405GD
In the interests of:
Nancy Whitley
Of: Holyoke, MA
RESPONDENT
Incapacitated Person/
Protected Person
CITATION GIVING
NOTICE OF PETITION
TO EXPAND THE
POWERS OF
A GUARDIAN**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Heritage Hall West** of Agawam, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court:

Expand the powers of a Guardian of the Respondent.

The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the

Guardian and or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of 05/14/2015. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Anne M Geoffrion, First Justice of this Court.

Date: April 16, 2015
Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
4/30/15

HOW TO SUBMIT LEGAL NOTICES

All legal notices to be published in the Agawam Advertiser News should be sent directly to klanier@turley.com. Karen Lanier processes all legal notices for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspaper and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Karen directly at 413-283-8393 x271.

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Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

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RIVER ■ from page 1

tershed association member Sheryl Becker said.

Rose said the association will continue advocate for the environment along the river. It asks people who travel through area or travel in their cars by the river to not leave trash or throw it out the windows. Trash thrown out the windows of cars can be picked up by the wind and end up along the shores and even in the river.

For people using the trails and riverwalk, Rose has a simple philosophy. “You carry out what you carry in,” said Rose. “If you’re going to walk on the trails, bring a bag for your trash and carry it out with you.”



Volunteers from the Westfield River Watershed Association begin their cleanup efforts early Saturday morning in Agawam. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Three hours later, the area is free of trash and debris.

Rose and Becker both praised the volunteers that helped out in this year’s cleanup, including several teenagers from the West Springfield Baptist Church Youth Group. The group made the cleanup part of its regular community service and helped contributed several more bags of trash.

Another volunteer, Larry Gould, lives in the area and simply wanted to keep the area clean.

“I have been coming for the last few years,” said Gould. “I just can’t stand to see the area looking like this with all the trash. The scratch tickets, cigarette butts, it’s disgusting.”

Lane Construction, an area contractor, helped provide bags and other equipment for the cleanup.



Tharen Ring, a volunteer from the West Springfield Baptist Church Youth Group, holds up another bag of trash he collected along the River Walk on River Road in Agawam

Town cleanup day this weekend

The Department of Public Works has declared Saturday, May 2, to be “Agawam Clean” day in the town, and asking citizens to organize groups to tackle litter in any section of town where they find it — whether on streets, sidewalks, schoolyards, fields, parks, parking lots or neglected property.

Litter busters should call Tracy DeMaio at the DPW at 413-821-0624 and claim the spot.

Groups can clean their territory at any time, although the DPW is suggesting 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday. Groups are invited to take “before and after” photos and share them with the DPW. Cleaning teams should bag the litter they pick up and include it in their members’ weekly curbside trash pickups. No bulk items or construction waste should be included in trash bags to be picked up. DeMaio said any group finding such items should contact the DPW.

DeMaio said she hopes this will become an annual event.

PLANNER ■ from page 1

and familiarity with the town and current projects to help him acclimate to his new roles, which will also include community and economic development.

He believes the Walnut Street Extension project is in a good place, and simply will require his project management going forward. He also said former Town Planner Deborah Dachos is available at times for consulting.

Strange is a graduate of Syracuse University, majoring in business. He later received his law degree from Western New England University, and is a member of the Massachusetts bar.

He started his career in public relations and marketing. After meeting his wife and moving to Longmeadow, he decided to pursue law because he believed law and business were intertwined.

He spent time working for the Massachusetts Department of Unemployment Assistance. He presided over unemployment cases for a few years before starting his own private practice.

When the position opened up at Agawam Town Hall, he decided to pursue it because he believed his legal experience would be beneficial to the majority of functions required of a planner. His marketing and business background was also helpful.

He was a law clerk for town under Cohen in 2003 and 2004. Strange said he became familiar with Dachos and planning

issues during that time.

“There is a lot of legal work that goes into planning,” said Strange. “So I worked with her a lot on different issues.”

Cohen said Strange’s unique background made him the unanimous choice of the search committee, which was appointed by the mayor. Cohen said seven candidates were selected for interviews, and four received second interviews.

“I was really impressed with his knowledge,” said Cohen. “He did a lot of research about Agawam and its projects prior to coming to interview. His legal experience will also be very beneficial to our town.”

Strange has already been communicating with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission and numerous departments in Town Hall.

He starts with a salary of \$72,000 and is employed at will as an appointee of the mayor. He will be a part of the administrative union.

Strange says he plans to remain in the position for a long time. His impression of the town is that of great potential.

“I think Agawam is very interesting,” said Strange. “There [are] a lot of good businesses in town and a great tax base. But in addition, it is also a great place to raise a family.”

Strange said the town has a master plan that dates back to the 1970s. He believes the plan should be updated at some point, but will wait to gain experience before looking at it.

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EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD WINNERS

Connecting learning to students' interests

Jennifer Allard, Agawam High School
Position: functional academics teacher
Tenure in Agawam: 8 months

"Agawam High School is a happy place to work," said Jennifer Allard, who began teaching at the school last September. "I couldn't be happier here."

Allard teaches severe special education students how to develop life and vocational skills so they can become independent young adults. She helps them to be independent, to try new things, to expect the unexpected, and to make the best of the world around them without modifications.

"The joy of my job is guiding my students to find who they are as individuals, to bring light to their amazing capabilities and potential. I want to give them the opportunity to be seen as equals and to have confidence in themselves," said Allard, who worked for the Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative in West Springfield and in Billerica, Mass.,

prior to teaching at AHS.

AHS Principal Steve Lemanski said Allard was chosen over other new teacher nominees because of the impact she has made on students. Although Allard is relatively new to teaching, he said she's "making great strides" and doing "an extraordinary job" with her students.

"Jen consistently looks for the students' interests and connects learning to it. Her students come first no matter what," he added.

The Springfield resident, who decided to work with severe special needs individuals while still a high school student, said she's put in "countless hours" planning and tailoring lessons to benefit each student.

"This year has been exhausting and frustrating, but if I didn't try as hard as I do, I would be failing my students," she said. "They're my priority — sometimes you have to put yourself last."

Allard said she's honored to be recognized for something she "wholeheartedly" believes in.

Passionate about teaching, math

Kimberly Hebert-Donovan,
Agawam High School
Position: math teacher
Tenure in Agawam: 22 years

Kimberly Hebert-Donovan's favorite two words are "GO MATH," which are emblazoned on a door mat at the entrance to her classroom.

"I'm passionate about teaching and enthusiastic about mathematics," said Hebert-Donovan. An Agawam High School graduate, she was hired to teach math at her alma mater immediately after graduating from college. "I only left AHS for four years and I plan to stay here until I retire."

Hebert-Donovan, who has always enjoyed mathematics, said it's "truly rewarding" to share her knowledge.

"The look on students' faces when they finally understand what they're doing is priceless," she said. "The words 'I get it now' are real motivation to continue teaching."

AHS Principal Steve Lemanski said she takes on the most challenging students — and never wavers from her dedication to helping them: "Kim works with many struggling math students and has great success in doing so. She's an outstanding math teacher."

Hebert-Donovan is following in the footsteps of her high school math teacher, who inspired her teaching career.

"David Pulaski had an entertaining way of delivering a lesson that made learning fun," she said. "To this day, I try



During two decades of teaching math at AHS, Kelly Donovan-Hebert has helped thousands of students in and out of the classroom by making her lessons fun. Turley Publications photo by Mike Lydick

to emulate his methodologies."

During her two decades of teaching, she has helped thousands of students in and out of the classroom become better at math.

"I love teaching. It's different every day. The various personalities in each class make each lesson unique," she said.

One of the most touching moments for Hebert-Donovan came when her Algebra III students clapped the day they found out she had won the award.

"I still love my job and look forward to continuing in education until I retire," said the Agawam resident. "This award is special and I appreciate the recognition that comes along with it."

'Small victories' are major accomplishments

Kelly Daignault, Robinson Park Elementary School
Position: special needs teacher
Tenure in Agawam: 13 years

The defining moment in Kelly Daignault's life came when she realized she wanted to work with special needs children. She was just 13.

"My gymnastic team helped coach the Special Olympics gymnastic team. I loved my experience. I decided then that I wanted to teach students with special needs," said Daignault, who began her career in Georgia as a severe special needs teacher.

When she moved back to the Agawam area, she worked for a private company offering early intervention programs for infants and toddlers with developmental disabilities before being hired as a special needs teacher at Robinson Park 13 years ago.

Principal Cynthia J. Palazzi said most of the students Daignault works with are non-verbal or have limited speech.

"It's a very special population that requires a very special person," Palazzi said. "Kelly goes above and beyond because she not only works closely with her students, but also with their families during after-school hours to help them carry over strategies learned in school."



Robinson Park Principal Cynthia J. Palazzi praises Kelly Daignault's work with special needs students. Turley Publications photo by Mike Lydick

The Feeding Hills resident said that as a teacher who works with severe special needs children, she celebrates "small victories" as major accomplishments.

"The first time a non-verbal child asks for what he or she wants (through vocalization, signing, or using alternative communication means), the first time a child calls someone by name, or the first time children feed themselves without help, are all defining moments in their lives and their families' lives," she said.

"Kelly's positive personality and her endless amount of patience make her the special person that she is. Kelly has been more than worthy of this award for many years," said Palazzi.

Daignault said being recognized for her work in such a specialized program "validates" her hard work with students.

FUNDS ■ from page 1

Bonfiglio said the CPA has many goals, and community housing is among them.

"We are sitting on a lot of money in this specific fund," said Bonfiglio. Rosemary Sandlin, an Agawam resident and former state representative, believes it will cost a lot of money to secure land for housing for seniors. She suggested the town could seek funding from the federal department of Housing and Urban Development, but says the housing cannot be for seniors, it must be affordable housing for people of all ages.

Cichetti emphasized addressing the affordable housing is not just for seniors, but for people who grew up in town and want to remain after high school and college.

CPA Committee members also addressed needs for town parks. The CPA has already spent more than \$3 million on the two phases of the School Street Park project.

CPA Chairman Henry Kozlowski says other priorities include improved play-

grounds for Wade Park. Meadowbrook and Valleybrook parks are also on the CPA radar.

Recent funding grants by CPA for recreation have included the Agawam Dog Park and Shea Park, the high school athletic facilities and improvements at Borgatti Field.

Despite spending more than \$1 million on the high school athletic facilities earlier this year, there is more than \$2 million total in CPA accounts. The open space fund has the largest balance at \$750,802.

The CPA is funded by a 1 percent surcharge on property tax bills in Agawam, costing the average homeowner about \$30 per year. The state currently provides about a 16 percent match on the money raised by the taxpayers.

There have been 39 projects funded by the CPA since 2002. All projects are vetted by the CPA Committee and then funding is officially approved by the Agawam City Council.

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Donna Ferraiolo uses an inquiry-based approach to teaching science, English and reading. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

'I love listening to my students'

Donna Ferraiolo, Roberta Doering School
Position: science, English language arts and reading teacher
Tenure in Agawam: 10 years

Donna Ferraiolo remembers several "amazing" teachers she had as a child growing up in Agawam. Those memories have influenced her teaching style.

"They brought humor to the classroom and made learning really fun, so I try to do the same thing with my students," said Ferraiolo, who taught special education at Roberta Doering School before becoming a general education teacher three years ago. She previously taught in Springfield and at a private school.

Her experience working with special needs adults was one of the reasons the Agawam resident pursued a teaching career. Ferraiolo, who uses an inquiry-based approach to teaching, said it's "rewarding" to be working with children.

"I love listening to my students' thoughts on questions I ask," added Ferraiolo, who serves as her school's Common Core facilitator for science. "They know more than we think they know, so listening to them bounce ideas off each other can be very interesting."

Doering Principal Susan Federico called Ferraiolo a "tireless" teacher who has the ability to connect with students and staff.

"Donna is always looking to enhance the teaching and learning experiences for both her colleagues and her students," said Federico. "She holds her students to high standards and expectations. She always supports them, providing the means for them to meet these expectations."

Ferraiolo said the significance of the award to the teaching profession is that it acknowledges that there are teachers out there who teach simply for the love of it. "What makes a teacher excellent in my eyes is their love for the job they are entrusted to do."

Born to teach

Sandra Johnson, Agawam Junior High School
Position: science teacher
Tenure in Agawam: 8 years

Sandra Johnson loves children and science. Teaching gives her the best of both worlds.

"I love science and I get to share my excitement of science with my students," said Johnson, who taught in Farmington, Conn., before coming to AJHS.

She didn't plan to become a teacher, however. A biology major in college, she missed some science classes because of a car accident her first year. When she returned, she was advised to take some education classes instead of going back to her science classes.

"From that time on, I double-majored in biology and education. I picked up the necessary classes to complete both majors during summer school," she recalled.

Johnson said her science background has helped her be a better teacher.

"To teach science, students need to be doing science," she said. "I try to incorporate fun experiments that help students understand difficult concepts. That's when I get the 'Aha moments' from my students. It's my biggest reward."

AJHS Principal Norm Robbins said



Sandra Johnson creates fun experiments to help AJHS students understand difficult science concepts. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

Johnson recently helped to research and start an extracurricular science club to challenge students who excel in science. Under Johnson's direction, the club has grown and involves parent and community participation.

"Sande's a leader, a mentor, a friend, and a role model," said Robbins. "She would be the first to downplay this recognition, but she should be one of the first to be nominated for the award. Sandee was born to be a teacher."

The Suffield resident said winning the award was a complete surprise, but called it one of the proudest moments of her teaching career.

Teacher profiles by Mike Lydick

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SPORTS

GIRLS LACROSSE

Agawam offense dominates Terriers

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – With the late start to the regular season, the Agawam girls lacrosse team has had an unusual schedule for their first six games.

Already, Agawam has seen West Springfield twice, and has unfortunately tangled with Longmeadow in consecutive games during the past two weeks.

Agawam rebounded from two straight losses against Longmeadow and took out their frustrations on West Springfield on a very cold and blustery Friday afternoon with a 19-5 victory at Clark Field at West Springfield High School.

The Brownies had virtually no trouble with the Terriers as they jumped out to a huge lead very early in the game.

Agawam scored five times before the Terriers got on the scoreboard.

Katie Martin, who leads Agawam in scoring, scored the first of eight goals in the game about two minutes into the game. She was followed by Haley Kozlak with a goal 30 seconds later. Martin then scored the next two goals, and was followed by Nina Bruno with a goal. Before the midpoint

of the first half, Agawam led 7-1.

Up 8-2 with 5:48 remaining in the first half, Martin was back at it, working around three different defenders and make a run toward the goal. She scored from very close range to make it 9-2 Brownies.

At the 4:36 mark, it became 10-2 as Martin helped with a goal. This one came from Bruno. Martin made the pass to Bruno, who was coming strong on the goal. Bruno shot on the run for the goal.

Julia Serra then helped make it 11-2 when she made a few different runs and passed off to Jill Scherpa, who sent the ball home with 4:00 left.

The final goal of the first half came from Kozlak, who take a pass from Marissa Ewing. Ewing possessed the ball behind the goal and passed to an oncoming Kozlak for the goal. West Springfield was able to notch one more score with a few seconds remaining in the first half to make it 12-3.

The goal for West Side allowed the clock to continue being stopped temporarily.

But Agawam would score early in the second half to get the



Katie Martin surveys the field for an open teammate. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

GIRLS | page 13

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

Comp sweeps past Brownies

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – The Agawam boys volleyball team opened the regular season with four straight victories before finally being defeated.

Agawam's defeats have been few and far between in 2013 and 2014, but this year, Agawam is

playing with five of seven starters graduated. Still, the inexperienced Brownies are a big contender for this year's tournament.

But Chicopee Comp showed why they are still one of the top programs in Western Massachusetts no matter what stage of development they are in.

Last Wednesday afternoon,

the two teams got together in their first clash of the regular season in a noon matinee during the spring vacation week.

Agawam had jumped out to an early lead in the first game of the set. The Brownies led by as much as 10 points at one juncture, but the Colts took a timeout, and got things put back together as they

VOLLEYBALL | page 13

SOFTBALL

Agawam pulls away from Colts

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – A three-run third inning was all Agawam need, but the Brownies added another big inning in the fifth and defeated Chicopee Comp in softball action last Tuesday afternoon in an early afternoon game at Agawam High School.

The Brownies are undefeated so far this season, with impressive victories over each opponent they have faced this season.

Comp was no different as the Brownies got things started at the bottom of the order. After a couple

of quiet innings, Sabrina Dubiel walked to start the inning. Back at the top of the order, Katie Grasso singled and Allison Wheeler followed with another hit.

Jess Lingenberg would follow with a sacrifice fly, and an error allowed another run to score.

Up 3-0, Agawam would place two runners on first and second with two outs. Gianna Perella would then reach base on a fielder's choice and Alyssa Eggleston, the Brownie shortstop, kept the inning going with a walk. Rachel Laponese also had a walk, forcing in a run.

SOFTBALL | page 14

BOYS LACROSSE

Brownies come up short

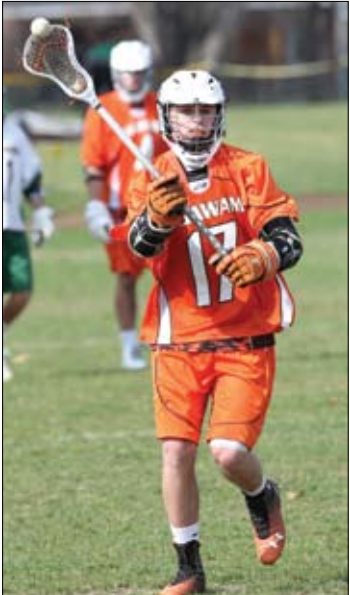
By Nate Rosenthal

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

WILBRAHAM - Defense was at a premium for both Agawam and Minnechaug, as the teams went back and forth and seemingly scored at will. The Brownies appeared to be out of the game after falling behind by five goals and were still down by four entering the final frame. They fought back and came within a goal with nearly 4:00 to play in the game.

Despite some chances in those final minutes, they could not get the equalizer and lost 13-12.

Less than a minute into the game, Agawam drew first blood with a goal from Matthew Lemke, who converted a pass from Christopher Basile at the 55-second mark. The Falcons tied it up at 2:14 as Stephen Kane found the back of the net. Agawam an-



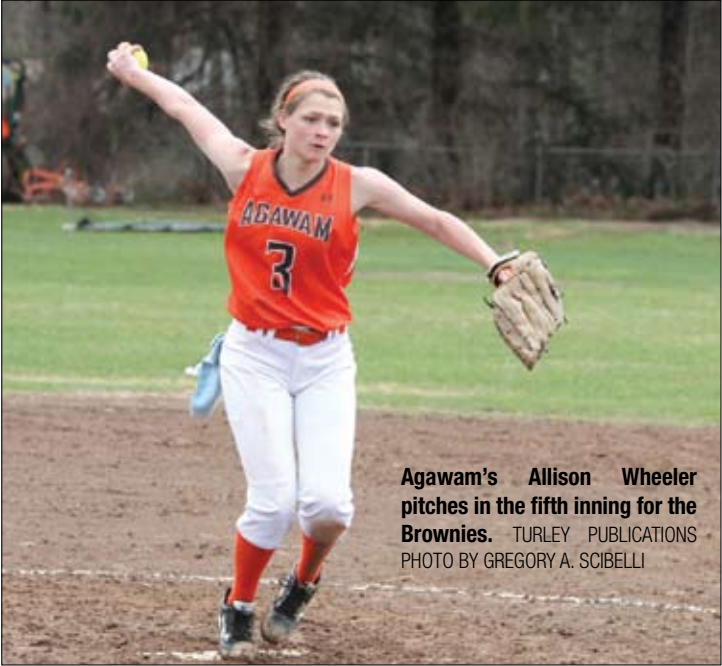
Agawam's Zach Circosta (17) flips a pass up the field. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY DAVID HENRY SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

swered quickly with goal 21 seconds and 40 seconds after Kane's equalizer. At 2:35, Elijah Bard, assisted by Basile scored and then 19 seconds later, Basile put one in himself. With 9:06 left in the first quarter, Agawam had a 3-1 lead.

Minnechaug started picking up the pace after that and at 5:45, Chase Beauchamp made it 3-2, unassisted. It was another 5:00 before another goal, but with 1:18 to play, Connor Moriarty tied it up. Minnechaug took its first lead with 20 seconds left as Ryan Yelle scored on a pass from Sam Christman. It was 4-3 after one wild quarter.

It took just 30 seconds of the second quarter for the Brownies to tie the game, that coming on a goal by Bard. At 4:51, the Falcons went up 5-4 with Beauchamp finding Christman who convert-

BOYS | page 13



Agawam's Allison Wheeler pitches in the fifth inning for the Brownies. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Sports

COLLEGE NOTES

Nichols golf finishes third at CCC Championship

BEVERLY – The Nichols College golf team placed third at the 2015 Commonwealth Coast Conference (CCC) Championship Sunday afternoon at the Beverly Golf and Tennis Club Saturday, April 25.

The Bison finished the event +67 (627), which was 16 strokes behind first-place Western New England (+51; 611) and 15 behind Endicott (+52; 612). Wentworth placed fourth at +88 (648).

Senior Kevin Wheeler, of Agawam, placed fourth as he finished +12 (75-77-152).

Lungarini notches seven points for Westfield

FRAMINGHAM - Westfield State women's lacrosse junior and Agawam resident Samantha Lungarini finished with four goals and three assists for seven points in a 19-13 win over Framingham State on Saturday, April 25.

Grassetti, Vecchiarelli help out Worcester

BUZZARDS BAY - Worcester State women's lacrosse players Angela Grassetti, of Feeding Hills, and Alexis Vecchiarelli, of Agawam, each finished with a goal and an assist in a 17-9 win over Massachusetts Maritime Academy on Wednesday, April 22.

BOYS ■ from page 12

ed. That lead last less than a minute and a half, as Bard made it a hat trick with 5:50 to go in the half. Nicholas Hanchett assisted. With 1:03 to play, Yelle put the Falcons back on top, getting help from Beauchamp. It was 6-5 at the half.

The Falcons got their first two-goal lead at 1:46 with Beauchamp scoring. The Brownies got that back less than 2:00 later at 2:36 as Basile converted a Christopher Breault pass.

Then Minnechaug took charge. Steve Deifenderfer made it 8-6 at 3:28 with an assist by Christman and then just 26 seconds after that, Bobby Gomez scored with Beauchamp assisting. Minnechaug led by three, Hanchett got one back at 4:32 for Agawam, but Gomez answered that one just 1:16 later. The Falcons were not done, though. Gomez made it a hat trick, all coming in the third. His goal came with 3:12 remaining, assisted by Beauchamp. Then Beauchamp made it a 12-7 game with 1:36 to go in the third. Agawam got one back at 1:14 as John Colwell scored unassisted.

Two minutes into the final frame, Basile scored his third goal and Agawam had closed to three. Deifenderfer with help from Beauchamp got the point right back 22 seconds later.



Agawam's Elijah Bard (21) makes a run up the field.



Agawam's Matthew Lempke (22) looks to make a play.



Agawam's Keith Ruby (23) takes a look up the field as he carries the ball.

Hockey champs



AGAWAM - Mario Passerini, Steven Grasso and Nick Frigo, all of Feeding Hills, were members of the Pioneer Valley Lightning Bantam A 2015 Skip Brush Tournament champions. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS SUBMITTED PHOTO

GIRLS ■ from page 12

clock moving again. Agawam outscored West Springfield 7-2 in the second half to keep their momentum.

Bruno finished with a hat trick with three goals. Kozlak and Serra had two goals each. Kristina Tran had four saves in the goal.

On Monday afternoon, Agawam outplayed Northampton in the second half, but could not overcome a two-goal deficit as Emily Biggs scored two big goals and the

Blue Devils defeated the Brownies 10-9.

Jackie Nielsen would lead the Brownies with three goals.

Agawam dropped to 3-3 for the season.

The Brownies are back in action at Belchertown at 4 p.m. Friday. They are at Minnechaug on Monday at 5:30 p.m.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.



Julia Serra passes the ball away. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Nina Bruno holds the ball behind the West Springfield goal. She had three goals against the Terriers.

VOLLEYBALL ■ from page 12

climbed all the way back into the game, tying the score.

Deprey Willis would score the final kill of the first game and Comp took a 26-24 win in the first game. The come-from-behind victory propelled Comp and they would continue on and capture a 3-0 win against Agawam.

The Colts would win the second game 25-20 and the third game 25-17.

Agawam struggled, but stayed in the second and third games for as long as they could. Comp just kept getting better as the three-game set continued.

The Colts got a huge effort from Willis, who had 26 assists from the setting position. He had one key kill, and scored two aces from the serving line.

Josiah Douglas had a big game with 14 kills and 10 digs. Sean Buxton contributed 10 kills, a dig, and three key blocks.

Jeff Leclerc continues his successful senior season. He had 12 kills, 12 digs, and three blocks. Agawam's Garrett Hollander had a decent showing from the setting position with 26 assists, and Anthony Frigo

contributed seven kills and six digs.

Following Agawam's loss against Comp, the Brownies were able to get back on track and capture a victory over Minnechaug Regional High School 3-0 last Friday night at home.

The Falcons had a lot of trouble getting going until the third game of the set. Agawam won 25-9, 25-15, 25-22.

Leclerc would lead the Brownies with 10 kills. Frigo had three aces. Kris Page had two aces and three kills. Roman Moka had 12 digs.

The Brownies are now 6-2 for the regular season, but have a 1-2 league record. Agawam has also lost to West Springfield 3-2 this season.

After playing Westfield earlier this week, the Brownies are scheduled to face Ludlow on the road Friday at 5 p.m. A rematch with West Springfield is coming on Monday at 5 p.m.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.

Sports

SOFTBALL ■ from page 12

Dubiel would then come to the plate and socked a three-run double, clearing the bases to make it 7-0.

Agawam would cruise from there, with great defense backing up another very solid effort by Wheeler.

Wheeler would finish with a complete game, going seven innings and allowing just two hits and two walks. He finished with eight strikeouts and won her fourth game of the regular season.

On offense, the Brownies spread their hitting throughout the lineup. Dubiel had the big hit, a double. She also scored a run and had three RBI. Eggleston, Grasso, and Becca Uschmann each had a hit and a run scored. Wheeler had a hit, RBI, and scored twice.

For Chicopee Comp, only Grace Smith and Kaitlyn Laurin had hits for the Colts. The rest of the lineup struggled.

Mikaela Montemagni would suffer the loss. She was charged with seven of the eight runs scored by the Brownies, going 4 2/3 innings. She allowed five hits, had six

walks, and struck out five.

Alyssa Johnson came in relief, and struggled to start. She finished with 1 1-3 innings pitched. She allowed five walks, two hits, a run, and struck out two.

Agawam improved to 5-0 when they scored a big defeat over Longmeadow last Friday afternoon 7-4. Agawam took advantage of Longmeadow being without their top pitcher, Jill Stockley, and was able to get a pair of three-run innings to take a 7-2 lead after four innings.

Wheeler also pitched well, holding Longmeadow's offense in check. She allowed four runs on six hits. She had four walks and five strikeouts.

Grasso, Lingenberg, Wheeler, and Marcotte had two hits each. Lingenberg and Marcotte each drove in two runs. Grasso homered and scored three times from the leadoff position.

Agawam is still perfect this season and travels to Belchertown Friday at 4 p.m. The Brownies have a big rematch with Longmeadow at home on Tuesday at 4 p.m.



Second baseman Taylor Marcotte makes a flip to first for an out. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

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CLUES ACROSS
1. Limited period
5. PC graphics file format
8. Coarse file
12. Smooth and lustrous
14. Equal, prefix
15. Waxplant genus
16. One who puts up with
18. H. Potter's BFF
19. Strays
20. Night flight
21. Over the counter (abbr.)
22. Salt Lake state
23. DWTS's oldest judge
26. A way to cut off
30. Hunted beings
31. Sacred tobacco pipe
32. Electronic data processing
33. # of nativity kings
34. Nebraska's largest city

CLUES DOWN
1. Czar
2. Czech River
3. Nev. Senator since 1987
4. Person of ancient Media
5. Russian meat pie
6. Atom with the same atomic #
7. Harmony
8. Watery discharge from the eyes or nose
9. Arteries
10. "Breaking the Silence" author
11. Crushing blow
13. Florida state dessert
17. Della __, singer
24. Meshlike fishing device
25. Storage warehouse
26. Play a role
27. Humbug

CLUES ACROSS
39. School spirit rally
42. 20th Greek letter
44. Belonging to Greek Mother Earth
46. Daisy tanacetum
47. Skilled in many areas
49. Mures river city
50. Brew
51. Extreme fear
56. Ethiopian monetary unit
57. Cardboard box (abbr.)
58. Esoteric
59. Sword similar to a foil
60. __, you!
61. Grass tree
62. Queen of Sparta
63. Major division of geological time
64. Supply with nourishment

CLUES DOWN
28. Single Lens Reflex
29. Billiards stick
35. Parts of an hour (abbr.)
36. A.K.A. opt key
37. Tool to work the soil
38. Not or
40. Pain in the middle or inner ear
41. Collection of Psalms for liturgical use
42. Int'l. news organization
43. High Ottoman official
44. Equipped with gears
45. __ Doria, ship
47. Informal complaint
48. Kurt Weill's 1st wife, Lotte
49. Cain and __
52. Canadian flyers
53. contest
54. At some prior time
55. Make sense of language

Agawam Senior Center

Lunch Menu
Monday, May 4: Teriyaki chicken over brown rice, stir fry vegetables, apples.
Tuesday, May 5: Taco salad (seasoned ground beef, lettuce, tomato, onion, taco chips), birthday cake.
Wednesday, May 6: Roast turkey, stuffing, cranberry sauce, fresh squash, diced pears.
Thursday, May 7: Shells and meatballs, garden salad, apricots.
Friday, May 8: Prosciutto and spinach-stuffed chicken breast, baked potato, broccoli crowns, homemade cream puffs.

Calendar of Events
Monday, May 4: 8 a.m., Weight Training; 8:15, Yoga; 9 a.m., Painting Club, Fallon Insurance Agent; 9:30 a.m., Line Dancing, Free Hearing Test with Ear Masters; 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 1 p.m., Bingo; 3-5 p.m., Senior Theater Rehearsal; 5:30 p.m. Zumba Gold.
Tuesday, May 5: 9 a.m., Knitting Class, Sewing Class, SHINE Rep.; 10 a.m., Computer Club

Meets; 12:30 p.m., Ladies Billiards, Mah Jongg, Movie ("Arsenic and Old Lace"); 1 p.m., Mexican Train Game; 2:30 p.m., Chorus; 4:30 p.m., Yoga; 5 p.m., Friends Pasta Dinner; 6 p.m., Beginner Line Dance; 6:30 p.m., Evening Sewing Class.
Wednesday, May 6: 8 a.m., Weight Training; 8:15 a.m., Yoga; 9:45 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 10 a.m., Friends Monthly Meeting; 12:30 p.m., Bridge; 1 p.m., Ballroom Lessons, Scrabble; 1:30 p.m., Golden Agers Chapter 2 Meeting; 3-5 p.m., Senior Theater Rehearsal; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold; 6 p.m., Western Mass. Genealogy monthly meeting.
Thursday, May 7: 9:30 a.m., Quilting; 10 a.m., Line Dancing; 12:30 p.m., Bridge; 1 p.m., Pitch, Open Art Class; 2 p.m., Melody Band Practice; 6 p.m., Cancer Support Group; 6:30 p.m., Pitch, Evening Line Dancing.
Friday, May 8: 8 a.m., Yoga; 9:15 a.m., All Media Art; 10 a.m., Tai Chi; 11:30 a.m., Mother's Day Luncheon (Music w/Sandy); Noon, Canasta; 1 p.m., Pitch, Cribbage; 5 p.m., Zumba Gold.

History program at Robinson State Park

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation will host "Preparing for War and for Peace" at Robinson State Park, 420 North St., Feeding Hills, on Saturday, May 16, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Participants are asked to meet at the park pavilion.

In the 1930s, unemployed young men joined the Civilian Conservation Corps. Some of them lived and worked at Robinson State Park. Although they didn't know it at the time, they prepared themselves to serve in World War II. And they created an enduring legacy for peacetime recreation. Photos, illustrations, maps and a guided walk help

bring this story to life. The presentation at the pavilion will be followed by a walk to see some of their work and the remains of their camp. The walk will consist of two miles round-trip on well-graded footpaths and paved road with rolling terrain at a moderate pace. Attendees are asked to wear sturdy shoes or sneakers for possible muddy conditions. Bring snack, water, sunscreen and insect repellent if desired.

This free program is for adults and older children accompanied by an adult. Heavy rain cancels. For more information, call 413-584-6788.

AHS retirement party tickets available

An Agawam High School Retirement Party will be held Tuesday, June 16, at Oak Ridge Country Club, 850 South Westfield St., Feeding Hills. Social hour will begin at

3 p.m., followed by dinner at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$30 per person and may be purchased by calling the high school at 413-821-0532 or stopping by the office at 760 Cooper St.

African choir gives benefit concert May 3

The African Children's Choir, known for its charming smiles, beautiful voices and lively African songs and dances, will perform a free concert in Agawam next month.

This all-ages event, featuring children's songs, traditional Spirituals and Gospel favorites, is at 6 p.m. Sunday, May 3, at Bethany Assembly of God, 580 Main St. A free-will offering will support African

Children's Choir programs, such as education, care and relief and development programs.

The choir's parent organization, Music for Life, works in Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria,

Rwanda, South Africa, Sudan and Uganda. It has educated more than 52,000 children and impacted the lives of over 100,000 people through relief and development programs during its history.

The choir has preformed before several heads of state, including Queen Elizabeth II at her Diamond Jubilee. It recently recorded tracks with Sarah Hickman for a CD, "Love Is a Journey."

For more information, visit www.african-childrenschoir.com or call Bethany Assembly of God at 413-789-2930.

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Obituaries & Church News

News, upcoming events at Agawam Congregational

The public is invited to attend the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St., “a place to call home — a people to call family.”

The church thanked the following vendors for their donations to the youth campership raffle. The raffle takes place each year to help defray the cost of youth attending summer camps. Special thanks to Geissler’s, Boston Red Sox, Bradley Auto Wash, Tuckers Restaurant in Southwick, Interskate 91, Wistariahurst Museum, Storrowton Tavern, E.B’s Restaurant, New England Aquarium, Kind Ward Bus, Mohegan Sun Casino, Norman Rockwell Museum and the church members.

Sunday service is at 10 a.m. with a children’s message, church school fellowship and coffee hour following.

Sunday, May 3: Family Communion service,

church school, and coffee/fellowship hour following the service.

Thursday Mornings: Playgroup fromt 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Open to the public. The program follows the Agawam Public School schedule.

Sunday, May 10: 10 a.m., Mother’s Day worship service with children’s message, church school and coffee hour..

Saturday, May 16: 7:30 a.m., Men’s Ministry meeting at Bobbie J’z.

Sunday, May 17: 10 a.m., worship service, children’s message, church school, Faithful Friends and coffee hour.

Monday, May 18: 4 p.m., Loaves & Fishes will meet; 7 p.m., Women’s Ministry meeting in the Friendship Room.

Friday, May 22: 9 a.m., Newsletter collation.

Sunday, May 24: 10 a.m., Memorial Day wor-

ship service, church school and coffee hour.

Monday, May 25: Church office closed for the holiday.

Sunday, May 31: 10 a.m., worship service, church school and coffee hour.

Save the Date: Vacation Bible School is coming Aug. 3 through Aug. 7, 6 to 8 p.m. Visit the website for more information or call the church office

Pastor Greg E. Dawson is available for prayer after the service. Newcomers are welcome and members of the community are invited to participate in all church events. For more information, call the church office at 413-786-7111. Regular office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. until noon.

Kids Bible camp to begin July 13

The Catholic community of Agawam will host a Catholic weeklong summer Bible camp Monday through Friday, July 13 to 17, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Morning and afternoon snacks and lunch are provided.

The program will include daily scripture themes, crafts, outdoor games, activities, music, food and fun. For children in grades 1 through 6, youth volunteers in grades 7 through 11 are welcome to assist in the program. The cost for each child is \$50 and for three or more, \$125.

Medical forms, registration and fees need to be completed by Monday, June 15. For more information or to register, call the secretary and religious education coordinator at Sacred Heart Parish, Lisa Raffia, at 413-786-8200. Registration forms are available online at www.sacredheart-feedinghills.org. All are welcome to attend, regardless of parish affiliation. It will be held only if there are the necessary numbers of children attending.

Hope Church hosts free kids camp in July

Hope Community Church, 152 S. Westfield St., Feeding Hills, will host a free kids camp Monday through Friday, July 20-24, from 9 a.m. to noon. The camp will include Bible stories, activities, games, crafts and snacks.

The camp, “Gospel Light’s SonSpark Labs,” will focus on “Discovering God’s Plan 4U = Jesus!”

For more information, call 413-786-2445 or visit hopecommunitychurchagawam.org.

Church Directory

| | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 745 Main St., Agawam 786-7111 Pastor: Rev. Greg E. Dawson Agawam1@verizon.net www.agawamcongregationalchurch.com SUNDAY SERVICES at 10 a.m. Communion on the first Sunday of the month Church school is in session and fellowship coffee hour follows the service. “A place to call home ~ A people to call family” AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 459 Mill St., Feeding Hills 413-786-4174 Pastor: Ken Blanchard email.agawamumc@gmail.com www.agawamworship.org WORSHIP SERVICES Sunday 10 a.m. Holy Communion served 1st and 3rd Sundays. Coffee hour after worship; Bible Study after fellowship. Prepare Meal for Samaritan Inn Homeless Shelter 2nd Saturdays 2-5 p.m. Offsite Worship: Heritage East, 1st Mondays, 11 a.m. Heritage North, 1st Tuesdays, 11 a.m. Heritage Woods, 1st Mondays, 11 a.m. Country Estates, 2nd and 5th Thursdays, 11 a.m. BETHANY ASSEMBLY OF GOD 580 Main St., Agawam (413) 789-2930 www.bethany-ag.org Senior Pastor: Rev. Richard E. Adams | WORSHIP SERVICES Sunday 9am & 10:45am Christian Education offered during both services. Nightlife Contemporary Service: Sunday 6 p.m. Wednesday Family Night: 7 p.m. CHURCH OF REDEMPTION 50 Maple St., Agawam (413) 304-2313 churchor.org WORSHIP SERVICES Summer Schedule Sunday Services, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday school for children and nursery for younger children FAITH BIBLE CHURCH 370 Shoemaker Lane Agawam (413) 786-1681 jesussaves.7@comcast.net Church Website: www.faithbible-church.org Pastor: Rick Donofrio SERVICES Sunday School for all ages 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting and Bible Study - 6:30 p.m. FEEDING HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC “An Open and Affirming Congregation.” 21 N. Westfield St., Feeding Hills P.O. Box 264 (413) 786-5061 fhccucc@comcast.net Pastor: The Rev. Robert C. Donaldson SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP | Church School 10:15 a.m. Worship Service 10 a.m. Infant and child care provided. Handicap accessible. FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF AGAWAM 760 Main St., Agawam churchedie@comcast.net www.firstbaptistagawam.org Pastor: Rev. George Thomson SUNDAY SERVICES Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School (grades K - 5) following Children’s Message until 10:45 Youth Group meets at 11 a.m. Coffee & Conversation following worship service HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH 152 South Westfield St. Feeding Hills 789-2026 SUNDAY SERVICES Men’s & Women’s Bible Study Groups and Children’s Sunday School Worship Service at 10 a.m. Children’s Church for age 3 to high school takes place after the service. Nursery available for younger children. A time for fellowship after the service. MARANATHA BAPTIST CHURCH 522 Springfield St., Feeding Hills Feeding Hills, MA 478-9484 David L. Short, Pastor Sunday Family Bible Study Hour, 9:45 a.m. Sunday Morning Service, 11 a.m. Sunday Night Service, 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer, 7 p.m. | SACRED HEART CHURCH 1103 Springfield St., Feeding Hills (413) 786-8200 www.SacredHeartFeedingHills.org Fr. Steven Amo WEEKLY SERVICES Lord’s Day Masses: Saturday, 4 p.m.; Sunday, 7:15 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m. Confessions: Saturdays, 3:15 p.m. Weekday Masses: Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. Special Devotions: Perpetual Novena to the Sacred Heart following the Friday 9 a.m. Mass ST. DAVID’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 699 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. 786-6133 saintdavid@comcast.net www.stdavidsagawam.org SCHEDULE OF SERVICES Sunday, 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. - Holy Eucharist ST. JOHN’S CHURCH 823 Main St., Agawam 786-8105 info@stjohnevangelistchurch.org www.stjohnagawam.org SCHEDULE OF MASSES Saturdays: 5 p.m. (Memorial Day to Labor Day) Sundays: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m., Latin Mass 12:30 p.m. Reconciliation: Fridays, 7:15 to 8 a.m., Saturdays, 4 to 4:45 p.m. Weekdays: Mon., Tues., Wed. & Fri., 8 a.m. Thursday: Communion Service |
|---|--|---|---|

DEATH NOTICES

Lowell, Irving R.
Died April 26, 2014
Funeral April 30, 2015
Agawam Curran-Jones
Funeral Home

Zanotti, Angelo P.
Died April 23, 2015
Funeral April 28, 2015
Colonial Forastiere Funeral
Home
Agawam

Agawam Advertiser News Obituary Policy

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place. The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$50, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

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Estate Sale

ESTATE/TAG SALE 17 Warren Street, Ludlow. Sat. May 2 & Sunday May 3, 9-5. 80 years worth of items. **NO EARLY BIRDS!** Indoor sale- Rain or Shine. Kitchen and housewares, antiques, furniture, tools, misc. Also items from garage and basement. No children's clothes or toys.

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Tag Sale

MULTI-FAMILY TAG SALE Sat/Sun. May 2nd-3rd, 9am-4pm. Raindate May 9th. Jewelry, baby items, home goods, etc. 146 Thresher Road, Hampden.

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*****A & B HOUSEHOLD REMOVAL SERVICE*****
Cellars, attics, garages cleaned, yard debris. Barns, sheds, demolished. Swimming pools removed. Cheaper than dumpster fees and we do all the work. Lowest rates. Fully insured. **(413)267-3353**, cell **(413)222-8868**.

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A & M TUNE-UPS
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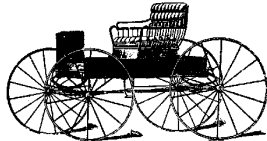
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CHIMNEY SERVICES: CLEANINGS, caps, dampers, repairs including masonry and liners. The best for less!!! Worcester to Pittsfield. www.expresschimney.com **413-650-0126, 508-245-1501**

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***NEW STATE LAW**. Anyone advertising caring of children must list a license number to do so if they offer this service in their own home.

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COMPUTERS SHOULDN'T BE frustrating or frightening. I'll come to you. Upgrades, troubleshooting, set-up, tutoring. Other electronics too. Call Monique **(413)237-1035**.

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BILL CAMERLIN. ADDITIONS, service changes, small jobs for homeowners, fire alarms. Fast, dependable, reasonable rates. Insured, free estimates. E280333. 24 hour emergency service. **(413)427-5862**.

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LICENSED AND INSURED excavating contractor servicing Western Massachusetts. Some services we provide are site work, utility installation, septic systems. Musa Excavating Contractors Inc. **413-222-1109**

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CHAMPAGNE LANDSCAPING WEEKLY mowing, Spring, Fall clean-ups, trimming, mulch, stone beds, gutter cleaning. Total yard maintenance. Call Dan (413)682-4943

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•Cheaper than renting
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• Mulch & Stone
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PINETTE LANDSCAPING: MOWING, SPRING yard cleanup, lawn repair, mulching, trimming, gutter cleaning and powerwashing. Senior Discounts. Free Estimates. Carl 221-2113

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T & S LANDSCAPING Highest quality, lowest price. Serving the Pioneer Valley. Weekly, bi-weekly mowing, Spring, Fall and Gutter clean-ups. (413)330-3917.

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ROTOTILLER FOR HIRE \$25 minimum fee + 20¢ a square ft. Eve. & weekends. New & pre-existing gardens. No job too small. Call Bill (413)221-0421. Senior Discount available

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ABC POOL & SPA Licensed & insured. A+ BBB Member. Pool damage? We can help. Top quality liners, above & inground pools, installations, openings, pool sales. Call (413)531-4192 7am-7pm, 7 days a week.

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MALE DOG 1 YEAR OLD LOVING LAB/TERRIER MIX, Neutered, Vetted, Obedience/ House trained, children 10 and older ok, no other dogs/cats in home, PLEASE CALL/TEXT 413-887-9220 DAWN \$150.00

RETIRED RACING GREYHOUNDS AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION
spayed/neutered, wormed, shots, heartworm tested, teeth cleaned

Make a Fast Friend!

Greyhound Options Inc. Call Mary at 413-566-3129 or Claire at 413-967-9088 or go to www.greyhoundoptions.org.

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HORSEBACK RIDING LESSONS offered year round at our state of the art facility. Beginner to advanced. Ages 4 years to adult. Boarding, sales and leasing also available. Convenient location at Orion Farm in South Hadley. (413)532-9753 www.orionfarm.net

Help Wanted

BRANCH OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR TRAINEE- Edward Jones is a financial services firm focused on meeting the needs of individual investors. Our Ludlow, MA branch office has an opening for an entry-level administrative assistant. Excellent organization, communication skills, and the ability to work independently are required to perform administrative, marketing, and client service responsibilities. We offer competitive benefits and a comprehensive on-line training program. To be considered for this position apply online at www.edwardjones.com/careers position #18969. Equal Opportunity Employer



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FOSTER CARE: YOU can help change someone's life. Provide a safe home for children and teens who have been abused or neglected. Call Devereux Therapeutic Foster Care at 413-734-2493.

FULL/ PART TIME available. Kitchen help/line cook, dishwasher and drivers wanted. Apply in person Abudanza Express, 6 Fuller Street, Ludlow.

LOCAL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY now accepting applications for Class A or Class B CDL drivers. Clean driving history is required. This is a Driver/ Laborer position. Applications taken M-F 9:00am- 2:30pm @ 2378 Boston Rd., Wilbraham, MA.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE in someone's life by providing 1:1 supports for an adult male in Belchertown with developmental disabilities. You will be assisting him with his Alternative Day Program which involves volunteer work, recreational and social activities. Individuals who apply must be kind, motivated, dependable, enthusiastic and organized. If interested please send resumé to Multicultural Community Services, Attn. Charlene Morse, 1000 Wilbraham Road, Springfield, MA 01109. Email: Charlenemorse@mcsnet.org, Fax (413)796-1955.

MECHANIC WANTED, EXPERIENCED Truck & Heavy equipment. Must have own tools. APMI, Monson, MA (413)267-4088.

SEASONAL CERTIFIED LIFE guard needed at Riverboat Village Apartments, South Hadley. Please call (413)532-9461 or e-mail tsmith@meredithmanagement.com if interested.

SMALL BUSINESS LOAN Program Manager. PT. Loan Development, Credit Analysis, Portfolio Mgmt, Reporting. Call 413-967-3001 or go online to www.qvcdc.com for details.

TREE WORKER Climber/ groundsman needed. Some experience required. Dependable. Own transportation required. (413)569-3383.

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HILLTOWNS – MONDAY AT NOON

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| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 Base Price \$26.00 |
| 21 Base Price \$26.50 | 22 Base Price \$27.00 | 23 Base Price \$27.50 | 24 Base Price \$28.00 |
| 25 Base Price \$28.50 | 26 Base Price \$29.00 | 27 Base Price \$29.50 | 28 Base Price \$30.00 |
| 29 Base Price \$30.50 | 30 Base Price \$31.00 | 31 Base Price \$31.50 | 32 Base Price \$32.00 |
| 33 Base Price \$32.50 | 34 Base Price \$33.00 | 35 Base Price \$33.50 | 36 Base Price \$34.00 |
| 37 Base Price \$34.50 | 38 Base Price \$35.00 | 39 Base Price \$35.50 | 40 Base Price \$36.00 |

Name: _____ Phone: _____

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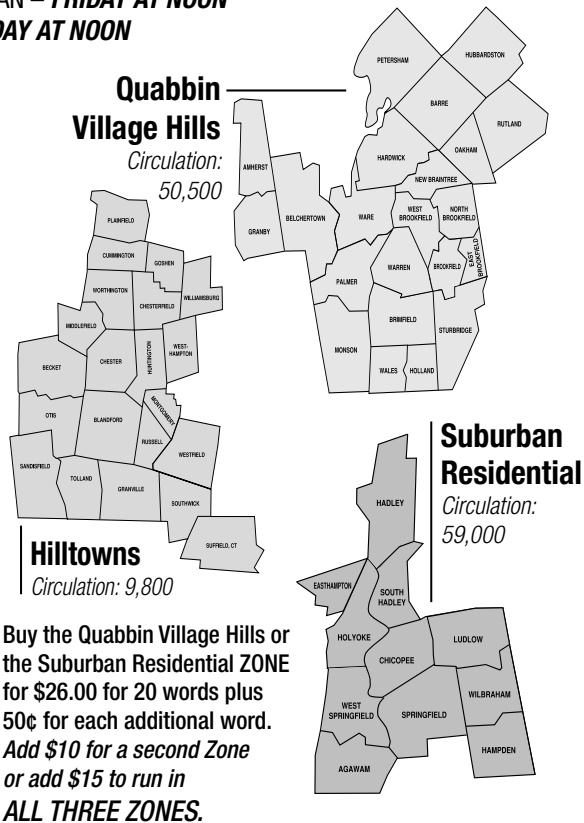
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Credit Card: ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover ☐ Cash ☐ Check# _____

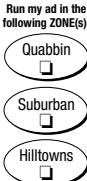
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Buy the Quabbin Village Hills or the Suburban Residential ZONE for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word. Add \$10 for a second Zone or add \$15 to run in ALL THREE ZONES.

First ZONE base price _____ Includes additional words
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FOUR IMMEDIATE OPENINGS

PALMER OFFICE

STAFF WRITER SOUGHT FOR PALMER, MONSON, BRIMFIELD

The Journal Register, a weekly community newspaper, is seeking a staff writer to report local news in the Palmer, Monson, Three Rivers and Brimfield area. Applicants must be dependable, have a passion for community journalism, feature reporting, editing, social media; be able to cover evening meetings and meet strict deadlines. The successful candidate will maintain cultural, political, educational and municipal relationships within their respective territory. Photography skills and own camera a plus. This is a full-time position. We will consider less experienced applicants, but a journalism degree is desired.

Three writing samples required with resume:

Douglas Farmer, Editor
24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069
Or email directly to dfarmer@turley.com

WILBRAHAM OFFICE

STAFF WRITER SOUGHT FOR CHICOPEE AND LUDLOW

The Ludlow Register and Chicopee Register, weekly community newspapers, are seeking a staff writer to report local news in the Ludlow, Indian Orchard and Chicopee area. Applicants must be dependable, have a passion for community journalism, feature reporting, editing, social media; be able to cover evening meetings and meet strict deadlines. The successful candidate will maintain cultural, political, educational and municipal relationships within their respective territory. Photography skills and own camera a plus. This is a full-time position. We will consider less experienced applicants, but a journalism degree is desired.

Three writing samples required with resume:

Aimee Henderson, Hiring Manager
PO Box 601, 1 Main St., Suite 100, Belchertown, 01007
Or email directly to ahenderson@turley.com

BELCHERTOWN OFFICE

STAFF WRITER SOUGHT FOR BELCHERTOWN, SOUTH HADLEY AND HOLYOKE

The Sentinel, Town Reminder and Holyoke Sun, weekly community newspapers, are seeking a staff writer to report local news in the Belchertown, South Hadley, Granby and Holyoke area. Applicants must be dependable, have a passion for community journalism, feature reporting, editing, social media; be able to cover evening meetings and meet strict deadlines. The successful candidate will maintain cultural, political, educational and municipal relationships within their respective territory. Photography skills and own camera a plus. This is a full-time position. We will consider less experienced applicants, but a journalism degree is desired.

Three writing samples required with resume:

Aimee Henderson, Hiring Manager
PO Box 601, 1 Main St., Suite 100, Belchertown, 01007
Or email directly to ahenderson@turley.com

WARE OFFICE

STAFF WRITER SOUGHT FOR WARE, WARREN, STURBRIDGE AND THE BROOKFIELDS

The Ware River News and Quaboag Current / Town Common, weekly community newspapers, are seeking a staff writer to report local news in Ware, Warren, Sturbridge and the Brookfields. Applicants must be dependable, have a passion for community journalism, feature reporting, editing, social media; be able to cover evening meetings and meet strict deadlines. The successful candidate will maintain cultural, political, educational and municipal relationships within their respective territory. Photography skills and own camera a plus. This is a full-time position. We will consider less experienced applicants, but a journalism degree is desired.

Three writing samples required with resume:

Aimee Henderson, Hiring Manager
PO Box 601, 1 Main St., Suite 100, Belchertown, 01007
Or email directly to ahenderson@turley.com

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Help Wanted

WATER/ SEWER OPERATOR

The town of Monson is seeking a full-time Water/Sewer Operator to provide technical work to operate and maintain the water and sewer systems. The ideal candidate must possess a valid Class B CDL Driver's License, 2A Hoisting License and Massachusetts D-2 and T-1 Certified Operator of Drinking Water Facilities licenses. Contact the Monson Water & Sewer Dept. at tel. (413)267-4130, fax (413)267-4106, or e-mail monsonws@monson-ma.gov. Completed applications must be received at the Monson Water & Sewer Department, 198WD Main Street, P.O. Box 388, Monson, MA 01057 before 3:30 p.m. May 4, 2015. This Institution is an equal opportunity employer.

WATER/ SEWER UTILITY MAINTENANCE WORKER

The town of Monson is seeking a full-time Water/Sewer Operator to provide skilled manual and technical work in the operation and maintenance of water and sewer systems. The ideal candidate must possess a valid Class B CDL Driver's License, 2A Hoisting License or the ability to obtain within 3 months of hire, and Massachusetts D-2 and T-1 Certified Operator of Drinking Water Facilities licenses or the ability to obtain within two years of hire. Contact the Monson Water & Sewer Dept. at tel. (413)267-4130, fax (413)267-4106, or e-mail monsonws@monson-ma.gov. Completed applications must be received at the Monson Water & Sewer Department, 198WD Main Street, P.O. Box 388, Monson, MA 01057 before 3:30 p.m. May 4, 2015. This Institution is an equal opportunity employer.

Business Opp.

LIQUOR STORE FOR SALE. Established location, 30 yrs. Full license, turn key opportunity. Over \$600K Merchandise, \$150K lottery in sales. 2,000 sq.ft leased store in Westfield. \$155K plus inventory separate. Call (413)267-0497.

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NORTH BROOKFIELD: Small Contractor or Hobbyist Dream home, 3 BR ranch, partially finished basement. 30 X 48 workshop, heated floors, propane, 10 X 12 garage doors, plenty of parking \$245,000

WARE: Charming Victorian in pristine condition w/Carriage house. 3 BR, 1 BA, stain glass, crown molding, tray ceilings, hardwood flooring. Combination Kitchen and Butler's pantry. \$205,000

WARREN: 3 BR, 2.5 BA beautiful colonial, custom built KT, w/wrap around granite counters. Open concept LR w/FP, MA suite w/sitting area. Garden whirl pool tub, separate shower, double sinks walk in closets. \$299,900

WEST BROOKFIELD: 3 BR, 2 BA Split Entry, Great location for an in-home business. The home is laid out in a fashion that would allow a separate area for an office and yet have a Private living area. Many upgrades, KT w/granite, hardwoods and tile. \$240,000

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ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

For Rent

FOR RENT



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

INDIAN ORCHARD/ LUDLOW 4 room apartments. Near bus line. Stove, refrigerator. No pets. Private parking. (413)543-5326

LUDLOW DUPLEX 3 BR, nice location, completely renovated. NO PETS. Gas/ AC, w/d hook-ups. \$1,000 plus utilities. F/L/S (413)283-4933

MONSON. 3 BEDROOM. Completely renovated, propane heat, lower than oil, \$100 toward first fill-up. NO PETS!!! \$900/ mo. F/L/S Call (413)783-0192.

PALMER 1BR - Quiet Secure Country Location. Locked Storage & Laundry in Basement. K/DR Combo - LR-Full Bath. Nice Layout. No Smoke/Pets. 1st/last/sec. \$750.00. Breton Est. 413-283-6940

PALMER DOWNTOWN 4 Rm., 2nd floor, refurbished. Spacious and quiet. \$650 includes heat, hot water gas, stove, refrigerator. (413)283-7620 weekdays.

WARE NICE 2 BDRM apt., 1st floor, off-street parking. Coin-op laundry, HAP subsidized. No pets. (413)323-8707

Vacation Rentals

LAKE WINNIPESAUKEE, WEIRS Beach, NH. Channel Waterfront Cottages. 1, 2, & 3+ Queen Bedrooms, Kitchens, Beach, A/C, Free Wi-Fi. Walk to everything. Clean and Comfortable. Call today 1-603-366-4673
www.channelcottages.com

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Campers

USED COLEMAN POP CAMP-ING trailer for sale. Sleeps 5-6. \$600 (413)547-6086



Out & About

OUR CALENDAR SECTION is intended to promote free events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at aan@turley.com, fax to 413-786-8457, or mail to 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.

Friday, May 1

A GUILD RUMMAGE SALE will take place Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturday, May 2 from 9 a.m. to noon at Faith United Church, 52 Sumner Ave., Springfield. Entrance is through the door in the corner of the parking lot on Fort Pleasant Avenue. There is something for everyone - clothing, shoes, household items, jewelry, bric-a-brac, books, toys and much more.

THE BIG EAST JUNIOR BEEF SHOW will take place Friday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, 8 a.m. to noon at the Mallary Complex on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Admission is free.

FRIDAY NIGHT AT THE ITALIAN CINEMA concludes its spring showings with "Pane e Tulipani" at the Irish Cultural Center of Western Mass., 56 Margaret St., Springfield. Doors open at 6 p.m. followed by the movie at 7 p.m. Requested donation of \$7 for members; \$10 for non-members includes choice of beverage and snack.

THE SPRINGFIELD SCIENCE MUSEUM'S large rooftop telescope will be open for public sky gazing at 7:30 p.m. as part of the "Stars Over Springfield" observatory series, rain or shine. Admission is \$3 for adults; \$2 for children 17 and under. For more information, call 413-263-6800 ext. 318.

Saturday, May 2

CONNECTICUT LANDMARKS' PHELPS-HATHEWAY HOUSE & GARDEN opens for the season and will debut new Saturday hours from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Taste teas popular during the 18th century, tour the historic house and shop the new inventory in the visitor's center, which will feature an exhibition by Rick Stromoski, Suffield's own comic strip genius, through Sunday, July 26. Admission is free, regular admission applies for house tour.

Sunday, May 3

A SPRING CRAFT AND VENDOR FAIR will take place at the Polish American Club of Agawam, 139 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Over 30 local vendors and crafters will be there, offering plants, local organic produce, jewelry, candles, make-up, holistic vendors, clothing items, and more.

A GARDEN CRAFT FAIR will take place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the First Congregational Church on the rotary in East Longmeadow. The day's events will also include a "Gardener's Gift Basket" raffle, a tag sale and bake sale. Perennials, ground covers, small shrubs and flowering vines will be on sale.

THE PARK AND THE PLANES, a guided walk and talk, will take place from 1 to 2:45 p.m. at Chicopee State Park, 570 Burnett Road. It is 2.8 miles round-trip, paved path, rolling terrain, moderate pace. Walking shoes, water, sunscreen, and insect repellent recommended. Heavy rain cancels. Meet in the parking lot next to the pavilion. Free program. For more information, call 413-584-6788.

Tuesday, May 5

THE TUESDAY MORNING MUSIC CONCERT at Trinity United Methodist Church, 361 Sumner Ave., Springfield, will feature the Stoneleigh-Burnham Chamber Players with Greg Snedeker, cellist and director, at 10:30 a.m. The annual meeting and luncheon will be held today. Free refreshments are provided after the performances. For more information, contact the church.

Thursday, May 7

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS AT THE QUADRANGLE will present "Meet John Adams – A Lively and Revolutionary Conversation with America's Second President" featuring George Baker, attorney and historical re-enactor, at 12:15 in the Museum of Fine Arts, at 21 Edwards St., Springfield. Admission is \$4 (\$2 for museum members). Parking is free. For information, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 488.

THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER will be celebrated from 7 to 8 p.m. on the steps of the Old First Church in Court Square, downtown Springfield. The honorary chairman for this year is Rev. Bruce Shaw, pastor of New Hope Pentecostal Church. For more information, call Tami Mara at 413-782-7171. In the event of rain, it will take place inside the church.

Friday, May 8

THE AGAWAM CULTURAL COUNCIL will present "A First-Person Visit With General Ulysses S. Grant," at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St., at 7 p.m. as part of its Applause Series. The library can be reached by phone at 413-789-1550. This and all Applause Series events are free and open to the public.

THE HUDSON VALLEY ARABIAN HORSE SHOW will take place Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. in the Coliseum on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Admission is free.

Saturday, May 9

BOY SCOUT TROOP 185 will hold a can and bottle drive on. Drop off is in front of the Agawam First Baptist Church, 760 Main St., from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Proceeds will help defray the cost of campouts and other scout functions. Rain date is May 16.

A CRAFT FAIR, PLANT AND BAKE SALE at First Congregational Church on the rotary in East Longmeadow, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The day's events will include a raffle for a "Gardener's Gift Basket. Perennials, ground covers, small shrubs, and flowering vines will be on sale.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS SERVICE at Trinity United Methodist Church, 361 Sumner Ave., Springfield, at 4 p.m. The TJ O'Connor Animal Adoption Center, Urban

Wildlife, and Whispering Horse Therapeutic Riding Center will join for festivities on the church lawn from 4-5 p.m.

Wednesday, May 13

THE AGAWAM COMMUNITY ARTISTS AND ARTISANS MEETING will feature Mary Rozman demonstrating palette knife painting with oils. The meeting will be held at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. beginning at 7 p.m. Guests are welcome.

THE ELM-BELCHER MASONIC LODGE, 53 River St., Agawam offers an all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper at a cost of \$7 for adults, \$4 for children. The public is welcome.

Saturday, May 16

PREPARING FOR WAR AND FOR PEACE - CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS at Robinson State Park, 420 North St., Feeding Hills, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Presentation followed by a walk to see how the CCC built the park and the remains of their camp. Two miles. Bring snack, water and insect repellent. Heavy rain cancels. Meet at the park pavilion.

THE AGAWAM HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION fundraiser from noon to 3 p.m. will benefit the Thomas Smith House. Events will include a family picnic, a May Pole Celebration, a bake sale and tours of the historic house at 251 North West St., Feeding Hills. All are invited to bring a picnic lunch. A \$10 per family donation will include beverage and ice cream dessert. For more information, visit thethomassmithhouse.com.

THE LONGMEADOW HISTORICAL SOCIETY will sponsor Long Meddowe Days today and tomorrow on the Town Green. Events will include a 5K road race and community walk, tours of historical sights, a selection of vendors, a campfire with hot dogs and hamburgers, a sing-along and many activities for children.

EXPERIENCE MUSIC AT UNITED will present the silent film, Robin Hood, starring Douglas Fairbanks. It is co-sponsored with the Springfield Chapter, American Guild of Organists and features Peter Krasinski, organist, at 7 p.m. Suggested donation, \$10; \$5 for seniors and students. For more information, visit www.uccholyoke.org or call 413-532-1483.

Friday, May 22

THE ARABIAN HORSE CLUB OF CONN. HORSE SHOW will take place Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Admission is free.

Tuesday, May 26

A MERCY HOSPITAL BLOOD DRIVE sponsored by the

Knights of Columbus will take place from 2-4 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church, 1103 Springfield St., Feeding Hills.

Sunday, May 31

THE MASSACHUSETTS SENIOR GAMES will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield.

ONGOING

ADULT DROP-IN SIT AND KNIT meets every Tuesday from 1-3 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. No registration needed.

AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 459 Mill St., Agawam, offers "Crochet Club" every other Tuesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. This club is open to all needle-workers, including crocheters, knitters, quilters, and embroiderers. For more information, call 413-786-7991.

THE LADIES GLEE CLUB AND MEN'S CHOIR at the Springfield Turnverein, 60 North Westfield St., Feeding Hills, are back to work. Practice is held every Wednesday with the ladies beginning at 7 p.m. followed by the men at 8:30 p.m. All are welcome. There is space available for anyone interested in joining.

A BREAST CANCER AND MASTECTOMY SUPPORT GROUP meets the fourth Tuesday of each month from 6 to 7:15 p.m. at 2 South Bridge Drive, Suite 1B, Agawam. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or online at www.survivorjourneys.org.

AN ALL CANCER SUPPORT GROUP meets the first Tuesday of each month from 6 to 7 p.m. at Sacred Heart Parish Center, 1061 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or online at www.survivorjourneys.org.

A BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP meets the second Wednesday of each month at Heritage Woods Assisted Facility, 462 Main St., Agawam. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or online at www.survivorjourneys.org.

THE AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH FAMILY PLAYGROUP, which takes place at the church at 745 Main St., Agawam, is open to children birth through age 5 with a parent or caregiver and meets weekly on Thursdays from 9:30-11 a.m. It includes crafts, stories, songs, free play and more. For more information, call 413-786-7111 or email jbrownacc@verizon.net.

YOUR CAR, TRUCK OR CAMPER may be worth more as a donation than a trade-in. Call the Massachusetts Association for the Blind at 888-613-2777 for more information. Towing is free. All donations are tax deductible.



Family Fair & Fashion Swap

When: Sunday, May 3rd, 1-5pm
Where: The Shortstop Bar & Grill
Address: 99 Springfield Road, Westfield

Come join us for an afternoon of food, shopping, fashion, and FUN the whole family, benefiting Western Mass MomProm or local cancer support.

- Over 20 Vendors
- Sundae Bar
- Photo Booth
- Kids' activities
- Special Feature: Ladies' Fashion Swap

***Ladies' Fashion Swap is held at 1:15pm or 3:15pm**

Please bring up to 5 new or gently used items to swap – clothing, shoes, accessories, costume jewelry, or handbags. You may take one "new" item for each item you bring! The Swap is \$5 per person.

For family discounted TICKETS and more info, please visit
www.WesternMassMomProm.com




Thank you to Expert Fitness for their generous donation of the space for this event. Thank you to the Shortstop Bar & Grill for their generous offer to be a Platinum Sponsor for the Western Massachusetts MomProm in October.



All Mother's Will Receive a Rose!

Mother's Day Brunch Buffet

Sunday, May 10, 2015
 Reservations from 10 AM - 3 PM

Featuring our Breakfast, Carving, Pasta & Decadent Dessert Stations, Coffee, Tea, Juice and much more...

Adults \$30.95* Kids (4-12) \$16.00*

Complimentary Mimosa Station!

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Think ‘Inside the Box’ with magic act at Leonard House

The trustees of the historic Captain Charles Leonard House, 663 Main St., Agawam, have taken on the task of keeping that town’s community house relevant for succeeding generations of area residents. Thinking “outside the box” has led to events such as their wine and craft beer tasting, which has become a popular annual autumn event.

On Saturday, May 30, they invite the public to think “Inside the Box” and spend an evening with magician P.J. Pinonnault. Performing a unique blend of comedy and magic, Pinonnault will combine expert sleight-of-hand skills with a penchant for finding the funny in life. He has performed for audiences all over New England, from corporate crowds to City Stage to the United States Air Force.

Pinonnault will present two performances of “Inside the Box,” at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. “Inside the Box” centers around magic



Above: The south façade of Agawam’s historic 1805 stage tavern Captain Charles Leonard House, showing the original “stage coach door.”

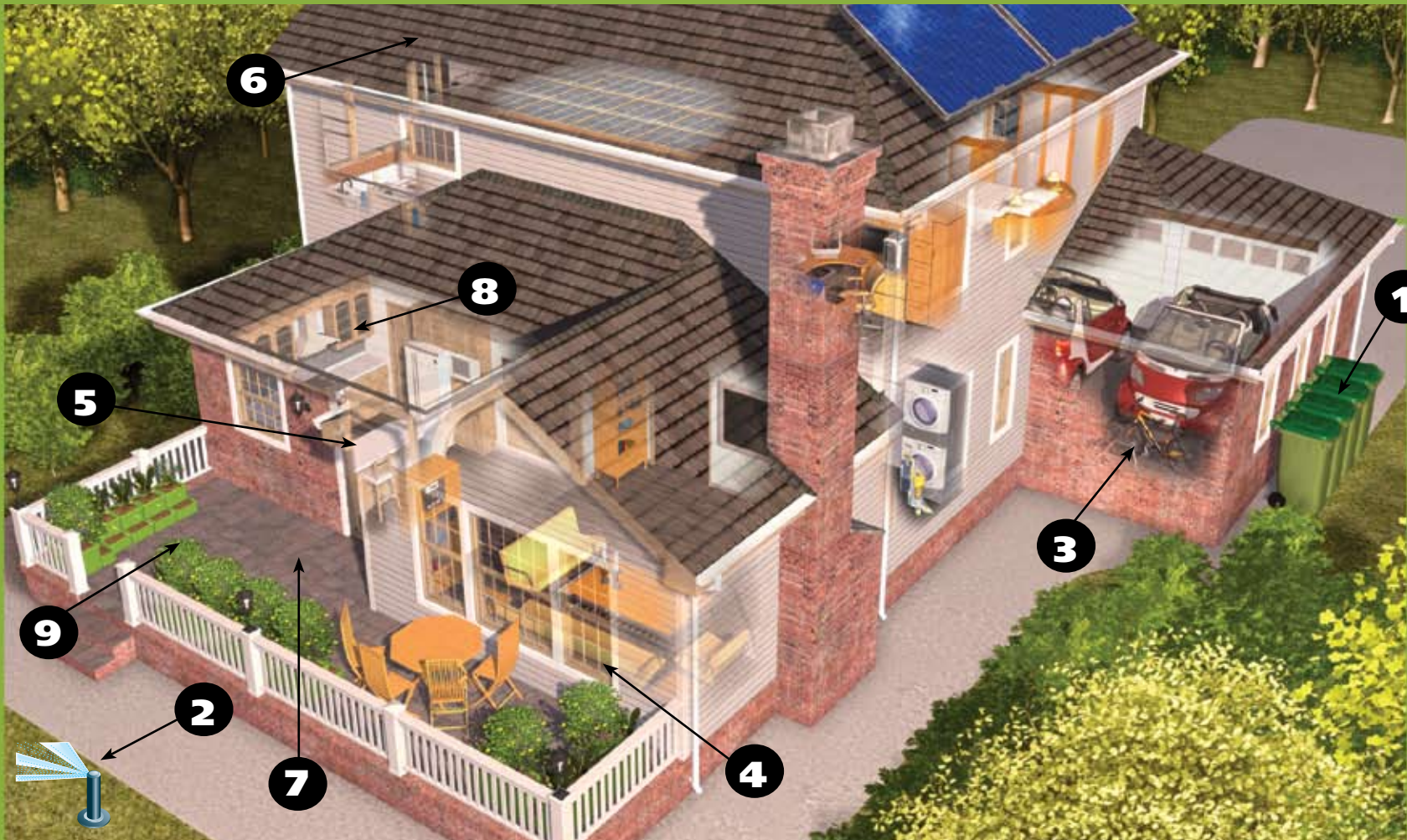
Inset: Playing cards are central to Pj Pinonnault’s “Inside the Box” magic show, though the performance is not a show full of cards tricks. The local magician will present his blend of comedy and magic at two shows at Agawam’s historic Captain Charles Leonard House on Saturday, May 30.



with a deck of playing cards, though this is not a show full of “card tricks.” Instead, Pinonnault will use a deck of cards to offer demonstrations of how we think, how magic tricks our brain, and even how magicians try to fool each other when they get together. One thing is certain, attendees have never seen anything like “Inside the Box.” Pinonnault promises to “make you think, make you laugh, and make you gasp. I also do card tricks,” he added.

Tickets are \$25 per person, and a portion of every ticket sold will aid in the preservation of the historic Captain Charles Leonard House. Contact Phil Kimball at 413-374-5673 for tickets. Tickets are also available at the Java Stop, 1226 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, 413-786-0000.

Refreshments are included in the ticket price, provided by the Java Stop. Seating is limited.

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